Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of St Paul's Church of England School
School Year *2016/2017*

Role of the Governing Board

The role of the governing board in a local authority maintained school is set out in education law, namely to 'conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement'. The board also has a legal responsibility to promote pupil wellbeing. It does this by:

Setting Strategic Direction	- Ensuring clarity of vision and ethos - Engaging with stakeholders - Making sure statutory duties are met.
Creating Robust Accountability	- Accountability for teaching, achievement, behaviour and safety - Strengthening and supporting school leadership - Performance managing the Headteacher - Contributing to school self-evaluation.
Ensuring Financial Probity	- Making sure the school's money is well spent - Monitoring the use of the Pupil Premium grant and other resources to overcome barriers to learning.

Governance Arrangements

The governing board is made up as follows:

- **Parent Governors: Karen Mallord and Greg South**
- **Headteacher: Chris Dugdale**
- **Staff Governor: Marilyn Wiggans**
- **Local Authority Governor: Cllr Julie Slater**
- **Foundation: Jackie Brine, Clare Leadley (Chair), Rebecca MacBride, Louise McGaffigan, Simon Taylor (Vice Chair), Sarah West**

The full Governing Board meets once per term and Governors also meet at least termly as committees to consider various aspects of the school in detail. At St Paul's CofE School we have the following committees:

Resources (finance, staffing, premises, health & safety)
Standards and Effectiveness (pupil attainment and progress, curriculum, school improvement plan, safeguarding)
Admissions
Pay review (consider recommendations for teaching staff pay progression)

Governors also have links to health and safety and administration, and visit school regularly to meet pupils and staff, in addition to monitoring specific aspects of the curriculum or areas such as SEN and safeguarding.

There are also committees that meet, if required, to consider pupil discipline, staffing appeals and complaints.
A list of Governors, their terms of office and positions of responsibility is published on the school website and can be accessed by clicking here http://www.stpaulshoddlesden.org.uk/topic/governors

Governors' Attendance Record

Governing boards make decisions collectively, though they may choose to delegate responsibility to committees, or individuals (including the Headteacher). Attending Governing Board meetings is an essential part of a governor's role and the attendance record for the governors of our school is good. This ensures that all governors receive the necessary information all at the same time and therefore important and informed decisions can be made as and when necessary on all aspects of the school, staff and pupils.

The attendance record for all governors is published on the school website and can be accessed by clicking here ***http://www.stpaulshoddlesden.org.uk/governing-body-information/***

Assessment and Impact of the Governing Board during 2016/2017 School Year

Resources Committee

- *Financial Management, budget-setting and monitoring including use of Pupil Premium grant and sports funding*
- *Meeting the Schools' Financial Value Standard*
- *Building developments/improvements*
- *Health and Safety monitoring*
- *Agreeing staffing levels*
- *Reviewing and agreeing relevant policies*

Standards Committee

- *Data analysis – attainment and pupil progress*
- *Monitoring the school Curriculum and extra-curricular activities*
- *Special Educational Needs provision*
- *Pupil attendance*
- *Pupil behaviour and safety*
- *Child protection and pupil welfare*
- *Reviewing and agreeing relevant policies*

Pay review

- *Staff recruitment, performance and pay reviews*

Full Governing Board

- *Governor visits to school focused on priorities for school improvement*
- *School Improvement Plan*
- *School Self-Evaluation*
- *Governor training*
- *Impact review*
- *Director's report from Blackburn with Darwen education authority.*

Future Plans for Continuous Improvement

During 2016/2017 there has been a rapid improvement in the knowledge and confidence of all governors. Moving forwards there will be a focus on governor training and on governors having specific areas of responsibility. The governing body has a strong foundation of mutual respect whilst not being afraid to challenge or question.