

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of St Paul's CE Primary School School Year 2019/2020

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 well-being. 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, behavior 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:** Elizabeth Lythgoe, Victoria Walmsley
- **Headteacher:** Mr C Dugdale
- **Staff Governor:** Kirsten Riding
- **Co-opted Governors:** Andrea Glynn
- **Local Authority Governor:** Vikki Blackburn
- **Foundation:** Clare Ledley, Louise McGaffigan, Simon Taylor, Jocelyn Yates, Sue Witts

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, this has continued in Zoom format throughout the lockdown period. At St Pauls CE Primary school we have the following committees:

Standard & Effectiveness Committee - Areas of responsibility include, data, curriculum, health and safety, SEND.

Pay Review Committee

Resources Committee - Areas of responsibility include financials, HR, personnel, premises, building maintenance.

Admissions Committee

Governors also have links to class teachers 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. Obviously during the last part of the academic year all visits to school were suspended in line with government guidelines.

There are also committees that meet, if required, to consider pupil discipline, staffing appeals and complaints.

Further responsibility given to experienced individuals on areas such as Safeguarding, Maths, English, EYFS, Sport

A list of Governors, their terms of office and positions of responsibility can be accessed by clicking here [GovernorHub](#) or [Governing Body Information | Huddlesden St Paul's Church of England Primary School](#)

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 excellent. 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 attached as Appendix 2 **or** published on the school website **or/and** can be accessed by clicking here <https://www.stpaulshoddlesden.org.uk/governing-body-information/>

Assessment and Impact of the Governing Board during 2019/2020 School Year

Resources Committee

Financial Management, budget-setting and monitoring including use of Pupil Premium & sports premium grants

Staff recruitment, performance and pay reviews

Meeting the Schools' Financial Value Standard

Building developments/improvements

Health and Safety monitoring

GDPR

Review of policies and updating of new : The school was extremely proactive this prior to lockdown in terms of communicating with the Governing Body and putting new policy and procedures into the setting on a daily basis as the advice changed.

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

Preparation and implementation of the home learning platforms was communicated. This was the flagship of home learning and the whole teaching team was involved.

Full Governing Board

Governor visits to school focused on priorities for school improvement

School Improvement Plan

School Self-Evaluation

Governing Board development plan

Governor training

Impact review each committee chair presents after each meeting to the full Governing Body for clarity and sign off.

It is important to place on record that the whole Governing body would like it noted that prior to the pandemic the school was absolutely ran to clockwork precision with all aspects of the school performance (positive and requiring focus documented). It is important to celebrate this hard work by the teaching team and this not get lost in the reporting of Covid 19. That said this academic year had to press pause on a number of tasks to ensure the welfare of all pupils and the wide staffing team. The washing of hands, preparing of school as rules changed daily was impressive. This continued throughout the lockdown period as the school remained open for key workers and then the Go Beyond operation fulfilling the school summer break childcare needs of working parents. All in the midst of daily changing and also conflicting advice.

Future Plans for Continuous Improvement

This summer 2019/2020 the staffing team did not get a real break and the preparation for school was robust and comprehensive. Social distancing signage, moving of furniture and ensuring that soft furnishes were possible removed. Sanitiser stations in place and bubbles confirmed. Policies and updates communicated to our understandably concerned parents - all before the school opened its doors for the new academic year. The school is ready for action and the governing body are committed to working with school to continue the wonderful setting that is St Paul's Ce Primary Hoddlesden.

Being candid there are some aspects of the school year ahead which may present further challenges around the pandemic. We will continue to face these head on and with the children and staff always front of mind. Whilst this break from learning will be remembered as a significant time in our lives, the teachers and Governing Body are confident that the measures in place will allow the academic learning to continue as safely as we can be. The long term impact on our children's education will be significant for all of the right reasons.

May our faith continue to give us the best basis for work, a focus for hope and ensure that all of the pupils showcase the very best of christian values in all that they do.

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Agreed by the Governing Board on:.....

Signed by the Chair
Louise McGaffigan