

## **Governing Body Annual Statement - Academic Year September 2015 to August 2016**

### Governors

During the past year Sue White and Patricia Rowan have stepped down as governors. They were thanked for their commitment to the school and their valuable contributions to the work of the governing body.

We welcomed Linda Natrass as a new governor. Two Foundation governors will join us in the near future.

Lisa Brind left the school in December and in January 2016, we welcomed David Williams as interim headteacher until the end of August. The governors have appointed Gary Price as the new headteacher from September 2016.

### Full Governing Body Meetings

Key information as follows:

- the governing body met 6 times throughout the year;
- Cathy Sane was re-elected as chair and Mark Kelly as vice-chair;
- the governors confirmed their committee membership and individual responsibilities, including the nominated governors for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Safeguarding, Looked After Children, Equality, Health and Safety and Training and Induction;
- all policies were reviewed as per individual review date including the admissions policy which was amended;
- governors recognised the hard work of staff and children leading to a 'good' judgement in the Ofsted inspection; and
- governors reflected on current directions in education including how to work in closer partnership with other schools.

### Finance and Resources committee

Key information as follows:

- the committee met 6 times;
- the committee have continued to monitor the budget closely and are pleased that this is on track to become a contingency budget by the end of the 2016 - 2017 year;
- the Diocesan board of education agreed to support the governors in the project to install acoustic panels in the church. The project was agreed but due to a design error, the panels have yet to be installed; and
- the committee agreed the cost of providing a text messaging service to parents.

### Curriculum and Standards committee

Key information as follows:

- the committee met 2 times;
- the committee discussed the local authority review in terms of specific subject teaching and learning;
- the committee analysed key data including attainment and progress;
- the committee learnt how good practice is shared; and
- the actions arising from the Ofsted inspection were monitored.

### Community and Values committee

Key information as follows:

- the committee met to analyse the results of the parent questionnaire and the issues that this raised.

The work of the full governing body, plus that of the committees feeds into the School Development Plan where specific actions for governors are identified.

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### Governor working parties

Governors formed working parties to support the following:

- develop a long term (3 - 5 years) strategy which informs the school development plan - a strategic plan is now in place; and
- explore the options for providing wrap around childcare.

### Governor admissions appeal panel

The panel met once to consider an application for a school place.

### Training for governors

Governors attended training and meetings during the year on the following:

- Ofsted Briefing - "School inspections from September 2015" (September 2015)
- "Understanding your Ofsted inspection Dashboard" (April 2016)
- "Educational Excellence Everywhere" (June 2016)
- "Training for new governors"
- "Partnership working" - (March 2016)

### Visits

Governors visited the school throughout the year. Visits included meeting with core subject leaders, looking at other curriculum areas, and attending assemblies and key events throughout the school year. Governors also met with the children to talk about values and their thoughts on behaviour and being safe. All visits were recorded and visit notes were distributed to relevant staff. Governors find these visits particularly useful. They enable governors to:

- recognise and celebrate success;
- act as a critical friend;
- develop relationships with staff and children;
- understand the environment in which teachers teach and children learn;
- see policies and schemes of work in action; and
- inform decision making.

### Staff appointments

Governors conducted the recruitment process which led to the appointment of Gary Price as headteacher from September 2016.

### Other areas of involvement

Governors researched and wrote a statement of Behaviour Principles which informs the school's behaviour policy.

Governors supported the open morning and welcomed perspective parents.

Governors attended the 'new parents' evening to explain the work of governors.

Governors were interviewed as part of the Ofsted inspection.

Governors contribute to the newsletter on a regular basis.

Governors regularly lead Collective Worship.

#### School Development Plan Priorities

Please see the separate review for this.

At the first full governor body meeting in September, governors will consider their priorities for the next year and work with the headteacher to incorporate these into the school development plan.