

Bardsey Primary School Annual Governance Statement **September 2017**

OVERVIEW

The governing body conducts its business to take account of the three roles of the governing bodies as outlined in the Governors' Handbook:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the Head teacher and senior leadership team.

The governing body also ensures that the school complies fully with statutory safeguarding procedures. All staff have signed a record to confirm they have read Part 1 of the DfE statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education". The governing body has familiarised itself with the document and have worked with the safeguarding lead in school to complete the annual safeguarding audit.

1. The composition of the governing body

There is currently one vacancy on the governing body which we will be asking for applications to help fill once we have identified which area we need specialist help with. We are very lucky to have specialists in Education, Data Performance Analysis, Building Work/Design and other areas which includes our parent governors who are invaluable to us.

2. Meetings of the governing body and attendance

The full governing body meets 3 times a year and these meetings are clerked by a trained professional clerk. There are also 5 governing body committees which meet at least 3 times a year and which have delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the governing body. Governors have good attendance at meetings. Apologies for non-attendance are considered on an individual basis. Governors are aware through the code of conduct that non-attendance, which includes apologies not being accepted, will result in the removal of a governor six months from the date of first non-attendance.

3. The remit of the governing body and its committees

The governing body and senior leadership team completed a self-evaluation of the school in July 2017 taking into account SATs results, the school's internal monitoring of pupil progress and attainment, changes to the assessment of pupils and the curriculum. The self-evaluation then informed our school improvement plan which has prioritised the following areas:

1. Raise standards and achievement in writing across the school with designated marker posts for improvement. (School Improvement Committee)
2. Challenge the progress of pupils more rigorously in line with the school development plan to ensure more teaching is outstanding. (School Improvement Committee)
3. Make training and resources available for improvement to take place. (Resources Committee)
4. To enhance the range, depth and quality of learning experiences in all curriculum subjects ie. Outdoor learning areas. (Resources Committee)

5. To ensure that health and wellbeing continues to be a priority across the whole school. (Pastoral Support committee)

The monitoring and evaluation of progress towards the priorities will be through the committees as indicated in brackets above.

The effectiveness and impact of the governing body 2016/2017

1. To continue to engage with the WVLP and to support school to school working within the partnership. Governors have attended many meetings and will continue to do so.
2. Play an active part in the Trust Board meetings. Governors have played an active part in meetings and will continue to do so.
3. Develop the school libraries to ensure more effective use. School libraries have been improved.
4. Increase the percentage of pupils working at greater depth.
Reading at greater depth has more than doubled
Writing is in line with last year
Maths at greater depth has tripled

The governing body completed a review of governance in July 2017 facilitated by the Governor Support Service questionnaire. The areas for improvement identified on our governors' action plan are :-

- a). Work towards an excellent school
 - b). To work in partnership with the new owners of the on site Nursery and after school care facility, in order to meet the needs of working parents and sustain the school's popularity, which optimises school funding.
 - c). Support the development of the Outside Learning areas
 - d). Continue to engage with the WVLP and to support school to school collaboration within the partnership.
1. The parental survey undertaken in October 2017 shows that there is much to celebrate about our school and the majority of parents strongly agree on most of the questions. Parking is still a problem and some parents don't know who the Governors are. Please look on the school website for our pictures and pen portraits.
 2. The Staff survey is very positive and highlights how well the new behavioural system is working for both staff and children.

Looking back

The Governors have had a very busy year at Bardsey Primary School and we have overseen many exciting changes.

Library refurbishments in Lower and Upper school.

The exciting build of the Round house which was the brain child of one of our Governors.

The moving of the Chickens which had very sad repercussions and taught the children the harsh reality of life.

New water fountains have been provided in both Upper and Lower School.

Standing desks have been trialled and now installed in several classrooms giving the children the opportunity to experience taking exercise whilst being at a desk instead of being sedentary.

The Governors are very involved in the JCC and have helped with decisions on its direction.

Learning walks have been carried out by Governors who have reported back findings to the whole governing body.

After identifying that the carpet in Upper School corridor was a trip hazard it has been replaced during the summer holidays. The water fountain was felt to be a contributory factor so this has now been upgraded and moved to a non carpeted corridor.

A CDC survey was carried out by Capita and three health and safety issues were identified which have now been addressed.

We are delighted to report that the before and after school club being run by Children's Corner has been a huge success.

Children's Corner also opened a 24 place Nursery in Lower School in September 2016. It is a delightful area which we hope will take even more children this year. It was lovely to see them on the beach with us during the whole school trip to Filey in July.

The Governors have been involved in staff recruitment, SATS invigilating, performance management, writing the SEF, monitoring the School Development Plan and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of a class and going on School Trips.

The Governors have had training in Safeguarding, Early Years, FGM and Prevent this year. The Chair attended a Multi academy information session given by The Brigshaw Trust and the Department Of Education.

Governors along with the staff are benefitting from being part of a Trust, The Wharfe Valley Learning Partnership, we share training and exchange ideas. It's always good to see how others do things and to share ideas.