



Annual Governance Statement of the Governing Body for Chilton Foliat Primary School Academic Year 2015/2016

The three core functions of the Governing Body as laid out by the Government are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Head Teacher 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.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Chilton Foliat Primary School consists of:

- 8 Foundation Governors (Diocese appointed)
- 1 Local Authority Governor
- 2 Parent Governors
- 2 Staff Governors (including the Head Teacher)
- 1 Co-opted Governor
- 4 Associate Governors

Associate Governors are those who, in the opinion of the Governing Body have particular special skills that will be helpful in contributing to the effective running of the Governing Body and success of the school.

The full Governing Body meets once a term and we also have committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. These consist of a standards committee, a finance and staffing committee, a premises and health and safety committee, a foundation Governors committee and a leadership and management committee that present to the full Governing Body.

Attendance record of Governors

Governors have an excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of Governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).

The work that we have done on our committees and in the Governing Body

Over the last year we have been working on areas included in our school improvement action plan which looks to continuously improve the standards of education at the school especially focusing on areas highlighted in our last GOOD Ofsted inspection.

The Standards Committee have spent time considering the new curriculum and target changes. They discuss key data giving the results of pupil achievement and progress. They ensure the maintenance of standards and progress towards above average targets for pupil improvement are on track. They also have a focus on the Pupil Premium Grant and Sports Funding, and how these are spent and the impact they have on pupil outcomes. A separate statement on how the pupil premium is spent can be found on the school website.

The Finance and Staffing Committee approved the 2015/16 budget and work to ensure monitoring processes are robust and that the school is efficiently using its funding to the benefit of all pupils. Aligned to our school priorities, most of the school's budget goes towards the high standard of teaching in the school. We want the best for our pupils and our recruitment approach reflects that. Quality of teaching will not be, and has not been compromised. This year, also in line with our school improvement action plan, we have purchased significant resources to help with maths and literacy for all year groups. The committee has been involved in looking at IT provision across the school and its needs, as the ICT suite is decommissioned to make way for an increase in pupil numbers. We are also very pleased with the uptake of school lunches across all year groups, and this is directly as a result of the high standards we deliver by having onsite catering.

Another area that the Governing Body has been supporting over the last year is the ongoing provision of wrap around care for pupils including breakfast and after school clubs.

The Premises and Health & Safety Committee are involved in the maintenance of the school property and grounds and updating of school equipment. They undertake regular health and safety checks and fire drills.

The Foundation Governor Committee are responsible for upholding the Christian ethos of the school and this year have been particularly involved in starting the very successful Open the Book programme at the school, capturing children's understanding of spirituality and looking at the availability of reflective areas for pupils.

The Governing Body are also responsible for reviewing policies and procedures at the school and key areas looked at over the last year include Admissions, Marking, Special Educational Needs, Home-School Agreements, Behaviour and Discipline, Equality Information, Data Protection, Collective Worship and Religious Education.

The incredible efforts of the Head Teacher and the whole school community has helped to promote the school, and is ensuring that it is growing in numbers and ongoing stability, enabling the expansion back to a four class school from September 2015.

Future plans for the Governors

Over the next year the Governing Body will be continuing to focus on educational standards as well as the changes necessary to the school buildings and environment as we move to a 4 class school again. More flexible IT provision will allow more efficient use of space in the school and more immediate access to these resources for pupils.

The Governing Body will also be upgrading the roof, the boundary and the heating systems to ensure pupils are safe, dry and warm. The long-term strategy for the premises will be defined to ensure the school can meet the long-term needs of the local area.

How you can contact the Governing Body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Wolcough, via the school office.

You can see the full list of Governors and more information about what we do on the Governor's page of the school website and look out for the post FGB letters circulated to parents to keep up with what is happening over the course of the year.

This Statement will be reviewed annually.