

Governors Annual Statement and Impact Report 2019-2020

In accordance with the Government requirements for all Governing Bodies the three core strategic functions of Biddick Hall Infant and Nursery School Governing Body are: -

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

-Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils

-Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it is money well spent.

To ensure the effectiveness of these core functions the Governors continually evaluate the role they have played in the life of the school and publish all relevant information to all interested parties. This statement and report form part of that evaluation and publication process.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Biddick Hall Infant and Nursery School was reconstituted on 10th March, 2015. Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the Governing Body have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. At present we have four Co-opted Governors on the Board. The full Governing Body meet twice each term. We also have Committees who meet when required to consider staff appointments, Performance Management, Appeals and exclusions.

Attendance Record of Governors

Governors have a good record of attendance at meetings. Due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic the meeting scheduled for the 18th March was cancelled and all meetings from that point moved to a virtual platform. Governor attendance records can be viewed on the school website.

Work of the Governing Body Including Work of the Committees 2019/2020

The Governing Body have a sound knowledge of the clear direction set by school leaders for the future work of the school. The schools' accurate self-evaluation has ensured that governors know how good progress has been made in addressing the next steps from the last school inspection. The School Improvement plan is monitored and reviewed termly and an evaluation overview is presented to governors termly as part of the head teachers report.

School Improvement targets for 2019-2020

Quality of Education

- To ensure the successful implementation of a well planned curriculum.
- Curriculum delivery ensures pupils keep up rather than catch up.
- Effective assessment of the wider curriculum
- Marking and feedback clearly supports the next steps in learning.
- To promote confidence and enjoyment in reading
- To improve outcomes in writing
- To ensure planning is effective and not onerous

Leadership and Management

- Internal support will strengthen practices
- Reflective working will drive school improvement

- To ensure the impact of strong partnership working with parents and the wider community.

Personal Development

- To promote equal opportunity and diversity
- To ensure physical and mental health

- To inspire pupils to develop a character which will successfully take them into adulthood.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- To reflect upon teaching styles and attitudes to learning.
- The school community demonstrates pride in the achievements of all
- A strong PSED curriculum promotes the school drivers of interaction, independence and innovation.
- All stakeholders recognise the importance of strong attendance and are relentless in their efforts to achieve this

Governor Visits

Link Governor roles are now well established and link the four key areas under which the school will be inspected. There are clear systems in place which support governor school visits as part of the school improvement plan monitoring. The head teacher encourages governors to meet with her prior to any link visits to discuss the focus of their monitoring visits.

Examples of the impact of these visits include

- Termly meetings between the head teacher and the link governor for health and safety always include a health and safety walk around school.
- Link governor for curriculum met with the curriculum lead. The focus of the discuss curriculum design and intent and next steps were identified to implement a calendar of meeting where subject leads could speak to governors about teaching and learning in their subject area of responsibility.

Governor Training

The Vice chair of the board has responsibility for governor training and she reports to the board termly on courses attended. The Vice chair also collates all responses from the NGA skills audit on an annual basis in order to identify gaps in knowledge specific to individual governors and the board as a whole and identify and sign post governors to the most appropriate training routes. The board remain committed to working towards the governor quality mark.

Key issues that have faces the board during 2019 -2020

The Board has supported the head teacher effectively in managing the response to the global COVID 19 pandemic. The chair of governors maintained close contact with the head teacher following the full school closure in March, she also kept up to date with governor briefings from the local authority. The full board approved all risk assessments ensuring they were completed in line with government guidelines prior to the wider reopening of school.

The school have had to manage some significant staffing issues across this year with two staff members on long term sick, one teaching and one none teaching member of staff.

Assessment of the impact of the Governing Board on the work of the school 2019-2020

The Governor for Health and Safety met with the Head Teacher termly and they conducted a health and safety walk around the site. Health and Safety is always included in the Head Teacher's termly report to Governors.

Governors have a statutory role in seeing all safeguarding procedures are in place and the head teacher ensures that Governors are invited to join staff at all applicable training.

The Finance Committee meet termly and early in the Summer Term the Governing Body approved the 2019/2020 budget. We are pleased to report the school remains in a good financial position.

The Governing Board review and agree all school Policies on a programmed basis to ensure all guidance is current and up to date. Specific attention is paid to ensure

all policies comply with the Department of Education mandatory list and the local authority recommended list. This year we have considered a number of key policies for review as well as implementing new policies. All financial policies were reviewed and agreed by Governors.

School attendance is reviewed termly to monitor in line with Government legislation.

Analysis of school data to monitor the progress and achievement of pupils, to ensure high standards are maintained.

Performance Management of the headteacher

Termly monitoring of the school improvement plan. This is informed through updates in the termly head teachers report to governors and through link governor visits.

Ongoing Plans for Governors

The Governing Body and senior leadership team are committed to constantly improving our school and look forward to maintaining strong working partnerships with all stakeholders. Current and future targets include:

- Ensuring that outcomes continue to improve for individuals and groups at both the expected and exceeding standard.
- Ensuring the successful implementation of a strong and rich curriculum that meets the needs of all learners.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of teaching approaches and close the gap between groups of pupils.
- To improve attendance and reduce persistent absenteeism.
- Ensure the quality and reliability of assessment across the curriculum.

How You Can Contact the Governing Body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and views of parents/carers. You can contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Beth Foster, via the School Office. You can view a full list of Governors and their attendance at meetings on the school website. We hope to add more information on each Governor to the website in due course.