

# Annual Governance Statement 2021-22

Governors hold an important public office, and in the interests of transparency, their identity and arrangements for governance should be known to the school and the wider community.

## The Governing Body

Name	Date of appointment	End of office	Role/type
Tim Fairbairn	13/4/19	12/4/23	Co-opted
Vacant			Foundation
Adam Kendall	8/7/19	7/7/23	Local Authority
James Thompson	25/1/22	24/1/26	Parent
Ruth Slater	N/A	N/A	Headteacher
Vicky Holmes	3/10/18	2/10/22	Associate
Helen Main	4/12/19	3/12/23	Co-opted
Vacant			Staff
Bill Box	1/10/19	30/9/23	Foundation
Leighton Hammett	25/3/20	24/3/24	Parent
Phoebe Piper	25/1/22	24/1/26	Parent
Simon Knight	6/10/21	5/1/25	Associate
Sam Baker	27/1/21	26/1/25	Co-opted
Nicola Wilby	12/5/21	11/5/25	Co-opted

The Governing Body maintains a skills matrix which demonstrates the diverse skills held by the Governors. This document helps inform any appointments to ensure the Governing Body maintain the skills required to be effective. Current Governor details can be found within the Governor profiles on the website.

During the year we said farewell to Clare Frewin, Claire Lloyd and Lucy Baker. We extend our heartfelt thanks to them all for their contribution and commitment to our school. As newly elected Parent Governors we have been pleased to welcome Phoebe Piper and James Thompson, and also Simon Knight as an Associate Governor.

## Clerk to Governors

Laura Benns continues as our Clerk, a position she has held for a number of years.

## Committees

Remits for the Committees of the Governing Body are available on the school website within the Governing Body's Terms of Reference. Some committees and named Governors receive specific training to be able to carry out their functions effectively.

Area of Governance	Named Governors
Training	Tim Fairbairn
Health & Safety	Leighton Hammett

Pupil Premium / Looked After Children	Sam Baker
Special Needs	James Thompson
Safeguarding & Online Safety	Helen Main
Finance	Adam Kendall
Reception	Tim Fairbairn
Year 1	Sam Baker
Year 2	Bill Box
Year 3	Phoebe Piper
Year 4	Helen Main
Year 5	Leighton Hammett
Year 6	James Thompson

Since Easter, Governors have been delighted to, once again, see children learning in school and to attend events such as Sports Day and the Year 5/6 production of Scheherazade at the Quay Theatre.

### **Attendance**

Attendance records for the Governors can be found on the school website.

### **Training undertaken by Governors**

During this academic year, Governors have attended training sessions run by Schools Choice, the National Governance Association and e-learning modules. When considering the skills and training Governors require, particular attention is given to three core strategic functions of the Governing Body:

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

### **Chair's Statement**

Whilst we have not had to face further school closure this academic year, Covid has continued to set challenges. It is a testament to the skills of our staff that they have risen to these and continue to deliver quality first teaching both in the classroom and for the children at home. We are indeed blessed to be supported by such a dedicated and talented team.

Under the strategic direction of the Governing Body, the Senior Leadership Team have been asked to review the vision and mission for the School, and we shall be able to say more about that after the summer break.

As a Governing Body we strive to continue to support the work of the school. We have worked together in our strategic role this year:

- To look at our pupils' personal development, as a key part of our broad and rich curriculum, to ensure they feel confident and are able to handle difficult situations as part of the school and wider community, both on and off-line.
- To ensure that the School is doing it's very best to meet the needs of our disadvantaged children.
- To ensure clarity of vision, as outlined above.
- To ensure pupil progress is monitored and maximized.
- To oversee and approve the school's budget.
- To ensure the staff are supported and their wellbeing is given careful consideration
- To oversee policies which shape the culture of our school, especially around school attendance.
- To meet with Subject Leads to gain insights into their respective intent, implementation and impact plans.

By carrying out our strategic monitoring role, we enable the senior leadership team to focus on the day to day running of the school. Much of our work centres around the school development plan with adaptations to respond to and allow for the impacts of Covid. In line with this, we regularly review our roles and the contribution we have made to the school.

We continue to review policies and procedures to ensure that these are fit for purpose and meet not only our legal responsibilities, but also our vision and aims for the school and our pupils. The children and staff remain at the forefront of our decisions as we strive to provide the best educational environment for them.

We continue to closely monitor the school budget. We work hard to ensure we have the right staffing levels and resources so that the children's learning and development continues to be of the highest standard.

The school development plan for 22/23 will be approved by the Governing Body in the Autumn term as part of our cycle of continuous school improvement.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer break.

## **Meetings**

The Governing Body meets twice a term, the Pay Committee twice a year and the Executive Committee once a term. Other committees meet as required.

## **Other Documents**

Other documents are available from the school website:

- The Governing Body's Terms of Reference
- The Instrument of Government
- Governor profiles, including their Business and Pecuniary Interests

Tim Fairbairn, Chair of Governors, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022