

Governors Annual Statement and Impact Report 2015-2016

The major concern to governors is ensuring that our pupils progress appropriately in their education and for this to happen the pupils are supported by a well led, enthusiastic, professionally competent and motivated staff who are all working together within a safe, supportive, expecting but understanding and relaxed environment.

The Governor role is intended to be strategic whilst being a 'challenging friend' to the Head Teacher. Part of our role involves us scrutinising statistics to ensure that our pupils are achieving what is expected of them. We also regularly visit the school and it is during both these aspects that it is very clearly visible the extra effort and care that goes into our pupils on a daily basis. The staff not only dedicates themselves to academic achievement but also to the life and moral skills that our pupils will need throughout future years. The school offers a wide range of clubs to ensure that it is inclusive to all the children and I think it worthy of note that parents work alongside staff passionately to achieve this. The church family remains a focal point for our school and this year Governors have attended school trips which have highlighted what a broad and fulfilling education our children are benefitting from. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and parents for their level of effort and care that they contribute and hope that they appreciate how much this is valued.

The governing body has played a strong role this year in driving the school forward. Both the Chair and Clerk have attended courses throughout the year which has developed their skill levels, and has ensured that we are completely fulfilling the requirements of the role. The entire governing body's details are on the school webpage which we hope makes us more accessible to our school. This year our webpage will be undergoing a transition and we will then be publishing attendance information from our meetings. All governors volunteer their time and as part of our code of conduct agree to share out the workload. I hope once we can publish this, you will appreciate the time given and the passion that we have for the school. As well as our full governor meeting and our foundation meetings which focus on our church school distinctiveness, we also have three sub committees. These three committees are pupils and staffing, finance and curriculum. These are smaller groups who carry out more focused work in these specific areas. The groups also review and update the policies of the school. An example of this has been the Sex and Relationships policy which we reviewed with the Head Teacher and it was then attached to the school newsletter to encourage parental input. Another area that we have focused on this year, is the proposed improvement to the car parking at the school. We will continue to focus on this throughout the year and when we have any further updates we will let you all know. Governors have been involved in the parent questionnaires that have been carried out this year so that we can hear all of your views.

Governors have been involved in the recruitment and selection of all teaching staff to ensure that high quality staff who share our schools values and aims are appointed.

Throughout the year governors are involved in reviewing statistical data which we use to check that our children's progress is as expected. We also at the same time attend pupil progress meetings where we get to see how this is applied to individuals. This year has seen a continuation of the development of middle leadership in the school. This is to ensure consistency and standards are the same throughout the school. Individual governors have worked alongside staff in this implementation. This year will see all governors undergoing Raiseonline training to improve our effectiveness in this area.

We have benefitted from numerous training opportunities during the year which I will list below for you. Training and development has been at the forefront this year to ensure that our skill set is current and useful.

PREVENT training – 9 governors

GEL safeguarding – 7

Safeguarding face to face training – 2

Head Teachers review training – 2

GEL Church School Governance – 2

GEL E-safety – 2

GEL new governor – 1

GEL school financial value statement – 1

Risk assessment – 1

CFBT partnership meeting – 1

Clerks Development Programme – 1

Chairs Development Programme – 1

The governing body, Head Teacher and indeed all the members of staff are constantly striving to improve and develop our school. This has been a successful year and we look forward to the challenges of the coming academic year

Yours Sincerely

Kate Odlin

Chair of Governors