St George's CE Primary School

Annual Impact Statement of the Governing Board 2023/2024

Governors are required to continually evaluate the role they have within, and their impact upon, the school and the outcomes of the children, and publish relevant information to all interested parties. This statement is part of that evaluation and publication process.

At the end of the academic year, the Governing Board consisted of 14 members:

Name	Type of Governor
Mrs Alison Seddon	Ex-officio Governor (Acting Head Teacher)
Mrs Georgina James (Chair)	LA Governor
Mrs Gillian Buxton (Vice-Chair)	Foundation Governor
Mrs Emily Edwards (Vice-Chair)	Foundation Governor
Rev Andy Jones	Ex-officio Governor
Mrs Pauline Rowley	Diocesan Governor
Mr David Smith	Foundation Governor
Mrs Dierdre McGeown	Foundation Governor
Mrs Angela Greenall	Foundation Governor
Mrs Clare Gregson	Foundation Governor
Ms Debra Hilton	Staff Governor
Mrs Janet Kelly	Co-opted Governor
Ms Adele Hurst	Parent Governor
Ms Leanne Johnson	Parent Governor

The Governing Board has three core strategic functions:

- **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction** - they help decide the school's strategy for improvement. It's not their job to get involved in the day-to-day management of the school but to focus on key issues that will raise standards and achievement.
- **Holding the headteacher to account** for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff - they use their knowledge and experience to support and challenge (in a constructive way) the headteacher and staff so as to get the best possible teaching and outcomes.
- **Overseeing the financial performance of the school** and making sure its money is well spent – they work with the staff to ensure that the school makes best use of its resources.

The new year school year began in September 2023 with the Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs Seddon, assuming the role of Acting Head Teacher with an Acting Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Young, in post.

The school also engaged the services of an Executive Head Teacher, Mr Simon Bramwell, to support the Acting Head Teacher and Acting Deputy Head Teacher throughout the year and to take on the role of School Improvement Partner.

In addition, a recruitment panel was formed early on the year and the substantive post of Head Teacher was advertised. This particular recruitment exercise did not result in an appointment and the governors will go out to recruit again in the academic year 2024/25.

During the academic year 2023/2024 the Governing Board has had an impact as follows:

Leadership and Management

The Governing Board has:

- Held the school to account for the financial performance/management of school funds, ensuring value for money, particularly in relation to Service Level Agreements.
- Responsibly allocated and utilized school funds and available grant funding to fund much needed refurbishment across school, leading to improvements in the classroom experience and enhancing the curriculum offer.
- Invested in IT across school to enhance the access to IT based platforms and provide access to equipment for all children.
- Complied with the Schools SFVS in undertaking benchmarking exercises with other similar schools.
- Continued to be compliant with statutory duties including Health & Safety and Safeguarding.
- Worked with operational leaders to raise the profile of the school, improving the marketing, logo, uniform, with a focus on high standards in all areas.
- In conjunction with school leaders, ensured that the school's Christian ethos is fully embedded throughout school to have maximum impact/effect, resulting in the optimum SIAMs inspection finding that the school is living up to its foundation as a Church school, and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.
- Ensured all mandatory training is completed by governors and also aimed to have a fully-skilled governing board. Driving improvements and setting high expectations for governors which leads to high expectations for staff and ultimately for pupils.
- HT Recruitment – ensured the process is maximised to secure the best candidate for the school with as much stakeholder involvement as possible.

Safeguarding

The Governing Board has:

- Met all statutory obligations with respect to safeguarding and ensuring that governors comply with the Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance.
- Continued to ensure that the Single Central Record is accurate and up to date.
- Worked with operational leaders to Improve the safety of children in outside spaces by sectioning off areas and making them more secure.

The Quality of Education

Governors:

- continue to undertake effective monitoring and evaluation, particularly in SEND, monitoring the drive for improvement which in turn leads to improved outcomes for the children.
- scrutinised school performance data predominantly in relation to attainment, particularly given the school's context.

- Reviewed the measures being implemented to raise standards, and achieve higher percentages of ARE scores and greater depth scores. Children received regular, focused interventions and the high targets across school resulted in the school achieving above national results for Y6, and previously lower-achieving children passing with secure scores.

Behaviour and Attitudes

The Governing Board

- Approved a new behaviour policy which raises the profile of behaviour, maximising key pastoral roles and ensuring a calm environment aimed at optimal learning for pupils.
- Championed the school's theological rooted Christian vision which allows for the children to enjoy the fullness of life and enable them to flourish in the world in which they live. This vision is threaded throughout all aspects of school life and across all areas of the curriculum.
- Promoted a "can do" attitude as part of the mission of the school leadership to raise standards across school which saw changes to classrooms and uniform, and which encourages children to be confident, kind, thoughtful and selfless.

Personal Development

The Governing Board has:

- continued to prioritise the wellbeing of pupils and staff and this remains high on the school's agenda.
- Supported the investment in a new teaching and learning PE scheme called Real PE. The scheme is user friendly and will support teachers to teach PE more in the next academic year, with two PE lessons being timetabled each week for every class.

September 2024