St George's CE Primary School

Annual Impact Statement of the Governing Board 2021/2022

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 11 members:

Name	Type of Governor
Mr Philip Ivory	Ex-officio Governor (Head Teacher)
Mrs Gillian Buxton (Chair)	Foundation Governor
Mrs Emily Edwards (Vice-Chair)	Foundation Governor
Rev Andy Jones	Ex-officio Governor
Mrs Pauline Hann	Foundation Governor
Mr David Smith	Foundation Governor
Mrs Linda Gillett	Foundation Governor
Ms Emma Holt	Staff Governor
Mrs Tracey Bailey	Parent Governor
Mrs Claire Shiels	Parent Governor
Mrs Georgina James	Co-opted Governor

There were three vacancies for Local Authority Governor, Diocesan Governor and one Foundation Governor vacancy.

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.

As the new school year began in September 2021, the threat from COVID 19 was still very real. The Headteacher and staff continued to work tirelessly to ensure that the children experienced a return to school with as little disruption as possible, whilst ensuring that Health and Safety and Pupil Well-being, were top priorities for all staff and children, in all areas of school life.

The school was inspected by OfSTED on 30th November and 1st December 2021 and judged the school to be a GOOD school.

OfSTED specifically found that:

- Governors challenge leaders regularly about the quality of the curriculum and check on how well pupils achieve.
- Leaders and governors have ensured that teachers are trained appropriately to lead different subject areas.

During the academic year 2021/202 the Governing Board has had an impact as follows:

Leadership and Management

The Governing Board has:

- complied with the statutory duty to review and approve key policies, ensuring effective processes are in place to best support the pupils and staff in school;
- reviewed its statutory duties for monitoring Health and Safety provision;
- Governors remained focused on the school improvement priorities and actions arising from the previous Ofsted inspection, particularly with regard to curriculum and the quality of education.
- held the Head Teacher to account with regard to the school priorities for the next academic year, particularly in respect of monitoring and evaluation, to ensure that the school's recovery following the partial school closures was enhanced and not hindered:
- had a greater understanding of the ongoing impact of Covid on attendance, attainment, progress, and the daily running of school;
- reviewed the impact of Pupil Premium Grant funding and Sports Funding across school;
- continued to demonstrate financial probity by:
  - satisfying itself that Service Level Agreements (SLA) are meeting the school's needs, are cost-effective and delivering value for money, requesting comparison quotes when necessary and bringing one of the services in house to save money;
  - Confirming that the bank statements had been reconciled and were up to date
  - Reviewing and monitoring the school budget report and approving school spending plans, effecting a change to the Admission Policy to account for a surplus in primary school places across Westhoughton and avoiding a potential budget deficit;
  - Scrutinising and updating the SFVS
- Reviewed the staffing structure and arrangements for 2022-2023 to ensure appropriate capacity across the school.

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

The Quality of Education

Governors:

- continue to undertake effective monitoring and evaluation, ensuring the Quality of education is good for all pupils;
- had ensured an understanding of the required pace, breadth and depth of the curriculum.
- had reviewed school data and challenged the SLT to explain how the school was getting children back on track to meet Key Stage expectations;
- understand that the recovery curriculum was continuing for many children and that it was still necessary for the school to find the time and funding for this to enable children to be securely within their age related expectations.

Behaviour and Attitudes

The Governing Board has

- Through effective challenge and in compliance with their statutory duty to monitor attendance, governors have a better understanding of the school's review and handling of attendance post-pandemic and the potential impact on progress and learning for children with attendance below the target range;
- Understood the measures put in place, both pastoral and educational, for children who struggle with the classroom environment or who have needs beyond those the school is able to meet within school; and better understood the range of options for, and costs of, alternative provision where this is in the best interests of the child.

Personal Development

The Governing Board has:

- Ensured that as the school came to the end of a challenging year, that staff wellbeing remained a primary consideration;
- Got a better grasp of the school's plans to become a Teaching School and of the potential impact of this on the quality of education for all children.

July 2022