



## **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-22**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Folksworth Church of England Primary School throughout the course of the 2021-22 academic year.

### **Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance**

The Instrument of Government for Folksworth Church of England Primary School allows for 13 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 10, with 3 vacancies – 2 parent governor vacancies which will be advertised at the start of Autumn Term 22 and 1 co-opt vacancy which is likely to be filled in September.

Through the course of the 20-21 Academic Year, the Governing Body has lost 1 of governor and gained 1 governor in their place.

Over the course of the 2021 - 22 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Clare Kirk

The work of the Governing Body has been ably supported by Janet Harris, as Clerk to Governors (now called Governance Professional).

Over the course of the year, Governors at Folksworth Church of England Primary School demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work. Further information about governor attendance can be found on the school website.

### **The Structure of Governance**

As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, Folksworth Church of England Primary School also has two committees, in order to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage.

The school names these committees as:

- Resources Committee – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, Health and Safety, Premises, safer recruitment and staffing
- Standards and Ethos Committee – which mainly deals with the curriculum, assessment and data, SEND and Pupil Premium expenditure and impact, safeguarding and embedding our vision and ethos.

Both committees and the Governing Body overall have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility.

In addition to the above, the school also constitutes a Pay Committee and Headteacher Performance Management Panel annually.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

### **Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Supporting the school's revised curriculum plan ensuring broad and balanced learning across the school in line with the school vision.
- Receiving regular updates from the Headteacher to inform governor monitoring of continued education and safety of all children
- Overseeing updates with regard to the progress made against the School Development Plan
- Monitoring visits to the school specifically looking at safeguarding, well being, collective worship, Early years provision, parental engagement, provision for high ability pupils, health and safety and the impact of educational trips and visits,

### **Impact of the work of the Resources Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Resources Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Ensuring that the Recovery Grant, Pupil Premium Grant and Sports Premium Grant have been spent effectively to provide optimum impact upon children's learning and progress
- Approving a revised staffing structure to ensure a continued good quality education and financial sustainability
- Ensuring a safe environment for pupils and staff through on-site and remote monitoring
- Maintaining high standards of financial management and governance through successfully meeting all the criteria of the School Financial Value Standards
- Approving the amended arrangement for Stay and Play and Breakfast Club as a result of the decreased demand following the pandemic, enabling continuity and value for parents and the school
- Requesting an Energy Survey from CCC to move towards a more sustainable school and reduce energy costs
- Obtaining better value for money by changing contracts for Cleaning and Grounds Maintenance
- Benchmarking our school against other similar schools nationally to monitor major areas of expenditure

## **Impact of the work of the Standards and Ethos Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Standards and Ethos Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Ensuring that the well being of children and staff has been considered when planning the curriculum and events; supporting changes due to the pandemic and other national and local events
- Monitoring progress of pupils through data, book looks and learning walks around the school, and reviewing impacts of interventions
- Consulting and reviewing results for the school council, pupil, staff and parent/carer feedback surveys
- Communication of the school's vision to the school community
- Supporting the recruitment processes and the development and progression of staff
- Reviewing policies, including Human Resources, Behaviour and Attendance

## **Governor Training**

Governors work collectively, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- Safeguarding – in order to effectively fulfil our duties in quality assuring the safeguarding arrangements for all children at our School.
- Monitoring the Curriculum – in order to ensure that our monitoring and questions are informed to gather the most important information from curriculum leaders
- LA Termly Briefings and the Annual Governors' Conference– in order to remain up to date with latest Local Authority information
- Specific training on OFSTED and SIAMs inspections in order to be fully prepared in their role during the inspections

Specific training to effectively complete the Head Teachers Appraisal Review as well as training on Improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures, Safer Recruitment, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Pupil Premium Grant, and GDPR compliance.

## **Governor Monitoring**

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the curriculum).

Throughout the course of this year, Governors have undertaken particular monitoring in relation to;

- Safeguarding
- The Curriculum
- Premises, Health and Safety
- Pupil Premium interventions
- Collective Worship
- Feedback on the impact of School Educational visits
- Behaviour
- Attendance

### **Forward Planning**

The Governing Body looks forward to continue to make an impact in the forthcoming academic year. This will include;

- Ensuring that the school is suitably prepared for OFSTED and SIAMs inspections
- Providing continued oversight regarding the impact of expenditure upon children's outcomes
- Continue to make best use of the school's resources to enhance the teaching and learning of the school community
- Continue to develop the school's curriculum ensuring it remains broad and balanced, meeting the needs of all our pupils.
- Supporting the identification, implementation and monitoring the impact of the key priorities in the School Development Plan.

### **Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at: [www.folksworth.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.folksworth.cambs.sch.uk). This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to [chair@Folksworth.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@Folksworth.cambs.sch.uk) regarding the work of the Governing Body.