



ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022-23

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Folksworth Church of England Primary School throughout the course of the 2022-3 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 – 1 parent governor vacancy which will be advertised at the start of Autumn Term 23 and 2 co-opt vacancies which are being advertised currently.

Through the course of the 2022-3 Academic Year, the Governing Body has lost 3 of governor and gained 1 governor in their place.

Over the course of the 2022-3 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, chaired by Roy Duncan – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, Health and Safety, Premises, safer recruitment and staffing
- Standards and Ethos Committee, chaired by Amy Pickstone – 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 Panel which meets annually and Headteacher Performance Management Panel which meets 3 times throughout the course of the year.

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, parental engagement, provision for high ability pupils, health and safety and sustainability

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 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 arrangement for Stay and Play and Breakfast Club enabling continuity and value for parents and the school
- Discussing an Energy Survey from CCC to move towards a more sustainable school and reduce energy costs
- Obtaining better value for money by bringing catering in-house
- 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 consistent review of pupil progress data and review of the school development plan and its priorities
- Monitoring the progress of identified cohorts within the data, reviewing the impact of the Read Write Inc scheme, home learning and the pastoral support role.
- Ensuring that the needs of all children are met – including pupils in receipt of pupil premium funding, pupils with Special Educational Needs and Higher Level Achievers.
- Reviewed feedback from OFSTED report and discussed ways to implement action points.
- Reviewing policies and monitoring their impact – including the Behaviour Policy
- Researching the new SIAMS framework in preparation for the inspection next academic year
- Adapting governor monitoring visits to have greater impact and focus, to ensure key priorities are monitored and staff well-being is considered.
- Ensuring best practice is shared and that the school is being benchmarked with other schools in order to identify strengths and areas for improvement

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
- Collective Worship
- Feedback on the impact of the Behaviour Policy
- 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 SIAMS the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools
- 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.
- Looking at the broader education picture with regard to Multi Academy Trusts

Other information and contact

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at: 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 regarding the work of the Governing Body.