



Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of

St George's CE Primary School

July 2020

Vision Statement

Let all that you do be done in love (1 Corinthians 16:14)

The example of Jesus Christ and the Good news that he brings inspire St George's school to be a place of hope and a caring and inclusive community in which **children love to learn and learn to love.**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Governing Body of St George's CE Primary School are:

1. **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
2. **Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;**
3. **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

Governance arrangements	<p>The re-constituted governing body has been in place from September 2015 and is made up of seven foundation governors, two elected parent governors, one staff governor, the Headteacher and one Local Authority governor.</p> <p>Associate members may also be appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: We currently have 4 associate members</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets twice each term, and we also have committees that meet each term and others that meet if required to consider specific issues.</p>
Attendance record of governors	<p>Governors' attendance at meetings this year has generally been good and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). Meetings during the Spring and Summer term were held remotely.</p> <p>See a full list of governors and their attendance at meetings on the school website.</p>

<p>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</p>	<p>The Governing Body has had a busy year considering the school development plan priorities and considering the academisation decision, plus supporting the school through the pandemic and the impact that has had on staff, pupils and families. Governors have been unable to make regular visits to school during the Spring and Summer terms due to the national pandemic.</p> <p>The academisation has been delayed due to the covid situation and is likely to now take place in Autumn term 2020.</p> <p>The Educational Effectiveness meetings and the Health & Safety/Premises meetings are now full board meetings, so all governors receive the information and have opportunities to question and challenge.</p> <p>The curriculum and assessments have been discussed at length, with questions asked of the Head and Deputy, and presentations made by various subject leaders. Due to the Covid situation there has been no external tests or assessments at the end of the 2019-20 school year.</p> <p>The governors have monitored the provision of remote and home learning during the closure of school to many pupils.</p> <p>We have also monitored our "vulnerable groups" of children and have discussed how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes.</p> <p>We have a Strategic Governance Review committee, which meets to ensure the work of the Governing board is as effective as possible and to consider the more strategic aspects of governance. One of the subjects discussed at length has been around the imminent academisation, and ensuring any decisions made by the school are done so in an informed way. The restructuring of meetings and agendas has also been worked on, to create a more effective system to cover governor responsibilities.</p> <p>Governors are responsible for overseeing the maintenance and development of the school premises and they make decisions about how the school should use the budget. The finance and personnel committee have ensured that the budget is used wisely and that best value is sought at all times.</p> <p>Another important role for governors is ensuring the safety and well-being of the children and we have a nominated Governor for Safeguarding who reports to the governors about any safeguarding</p>
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	<p>matters. The focus of safeguarding during a time when many pupils have been learning at home has been important. Governors have been kept informed by school of the pastoral and safeguarding work done by school as well as the academic provision.</p> <p>Governors have also reviewed and agreed key school policies and the risk assessments needed during the covid situation.</p> <p>Governors have completed annual skills audits and taken part in regular training to ensure they are fully aware and up to date with current issues for school and have the right skills to support and challenge the school.</p> <p>There is a training link governor who provides the relevant details of training opportunities to governors to ensure they have the skills needed to fulfil their role.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents and you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>We will be focusing on aspects relating to the School Development Plan to ensure that standards for all children are high and that all children are supported to reach their full potential.</p> <p>We will continue to look at the impact of school closure on progress and will be supporting the school in finding the most effective ways for children to catch up on any missed learning. We will also support the provision of a school specific, broad and balanced curriculum for all children to engage them and to provide opportunities to apply their skills.</p> <p>We will also be ensuring that the school's Christian ethos and values have a positive impact on our learners and allow them to flourish as individuals. We still expect to have a SIAMS inspection in 2020-21, so will work towards ensuring the visit recognises the impact our vision has on the work of our school.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents.</p> <p>You can contact the Chair of Governors via the school office or via email chair@st-georges-hyde.tameside.sch.uk</p>