



Sedbergh Primary School

Governors Annual Statement - July 2019

Dear Parents,

At the end of another academic year, I am writing to let you know details relating to the Governing Body's activities during the past year and our future plans.

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all boards of governors, the three strategic functions of the Sedbergh Primary School board are:

- ***ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction***
- ***holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and***
- ***overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent***

Governance

The Board of Governors comprises of 12 members which includes two staff governors (including the headteacher), three elected parent governors and one governor who is appointed by the local authority. The other six members, coming from a range of backgrounds, have been co-opted onto the board because, in our opinion, they have the skills needed to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The full board meets five times per year, at least once termly, to discuss, monitor and challenge items of formal business. We also have three committees that meet regularly to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At 'Sedbergh Primary' we have a Finance, Budget and Resources Committee that considers finance, budget, facilities and premises as well as health and safety issues, a Curriculum and Staffing Committee that examines the curriculum and pupil progress and staffing and a Pay Committee that is responsible for staffing issues such as pay and performance.

Within the board individual 'lead' governors have responsibilities for liaising with the Senior Leadership Team in specific areas, including Safeguarding, SEND, Health and Safety, Finance and specific curriculum subjects.

Attendance Record of Governors

We are a committed team and attendance at meetings is excellent. Members also, in their spare time, visit the school, attending events, observing classes, meeting with teachers and pupils and when necessary speaking to external advisors. We also undergo regular training either attending courses or online modules in all aspects of school life from safeguarding to finance.

What we have done in the Year 2018/2019

- All maintained schools follow the National Curriculum; our role is to ensure the school implements any changes in a way that ensures progress for all pupils and achieves a high level of attainment. This has been demonstrated by the ***excellent results in KS2 SATS***, considerably above the National Average in this academic year. This has been achieved through a team effort by all our teaching staff, led by Matthew Towe, and by the fantastic effort made by our outgoing Year 6 pupils.
- The School Development Plan is reviewed at all governor meetings ensuring that we continue to monitor, challenge and remain focused with all pupils throughout the school benefiting.

- The school continues to be committed to inclusivity for all children and ensures key changes and development with regard to SEND are implemented. Our policies in this area ensure that emphasis is placed on the relationship between school and parents/carers and continuing good practice
- Governors have a key role in keeping children safe at school, our policy for safeguarding children is in line with the statutory framework which is in line with the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' document published in September 2018 and will be updated as and when amendments/additions are available (due September 2019).
- Governors have been monitoring how the government's Pupil Premium and Sports Grants are being spent, ensuring that disadvantaged children enjoy the benefits of their peers, as well as assisting with pupils' fitness, health and wellbeing across the school.

Future Plans

- During the Autumn Term of the 2019/2020 school year, we will work with the headteacher and the schools' senior leadership team to set the school's development plan. Setting our targets and aspirations for the coming year.
- Governors will monitor the impact of combined year classes and ensure measures are in place to support teachers to continue to deliver, excellent well balanced lessons.
- Safeguarding children will remain a priority and our focus will be on emotional and wellbeing as well as e-safety.
- Governors will review the way in which we communicate with parents/carers, the 'App' is working well, but we believe that improvements can be made to the website and other areas, we currently have a 'working group' studying this area.
- Governors are aware of the new 'Ofsted Framework for Inspection', in place from September 2019, where the priorities of inspection have altered placing the curriculum along with leadership and management firmly at the core.
- We will continue to equip our children for a Modern Britain by promoting British Values such as democracy, the law, liberty, respect and tolerance as set down by the government. These sit along side 'Our School Vision' embracing our Aims and Objectives. We plan to review these in the next Academic Year with the whole school community.

Contact

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please feel very welcome to contact me, Peter Irvine, Chair of Governors, via the school office or email at chair@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Peter Irvine

Chair of Governors, Sedbergh Primary School