



# **Sedbergh Primary School**

## **Governors Annual Statement – August 2022**

### **Dear Parents/Carers,**

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), two elected parent governors and one governor who is appointed by the local authority. The other 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 and Appraisal 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**

The Board of Governors are a committed team and attendance at meetings is excellent (*attendance records are available on the website*). Members also, throughout the year, 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. Governors are delighted, having resumed their visits and other activities since the relaxing of the pandemic restrictions in place from March 2020.

### **What we have done in the Year 2021/22**

- 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 utilizing all grants and other resources in ensuring the reconnection of pupil's education after the pandemic restrictions. This has been demonstrated by the excellent results in KS2 SATS. This has been achieved through a team effort by all our teaching and support staff coupled with the fantastic effort made by our outgoing Year 6 pupils.
- The appointment of our new Headteacher, Victoria Hudson from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, after a prolonged time operating in an interim headship position. She has the executive responsibility in consolidating our progression for the future educational development of all both pupils and staff, and will undoubtedly continue to enhance our results and offering to all pupils.

- In January 2022, school had an Ofsted inspection, we are pleased that we continued to be graded as before 'GOOD', a copy of the report can be found on the website. Governors are aware of the new 'Ofsted Framework for Inspection', where the priorities of inspection have altered placing the curriculum along with leadership and management firmly at the core.
- 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 regarding 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. A new SEND Co-Ordinator, Betty Stephenson was appointed in April 2022.
- 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 2021 and will be updated as and when amendments/additions are available (due September 2022).
- 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. We have during the year invested amounts in both alterations and equipment in further developing facilities for all.

### **Future Plans**

- During the Autumn Term of the 2022/23 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.
- Combined year classes will be restricted to Years 3/4 with Years 1 and 2 now being divided into separate classes. We will continue to ensure measures are in place to support teachers to continue to deliver, excellent well-balanced lessons in line with issued guidelines.
- Wraparound care is now offered to all parents/carers with pupils on the school role i.e. Reception to Year 6 inclusive, giving the opportunity to attend breakfast and after school facilities. We will monitor the requirement of this additional service in future months.
- Safeguarding children will always remain a priority and our focus will be on emotional and wellbeing as well as e-safety.
- Governors will continue to review the way in which we communicate with parents/carers.
- 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 alongside 'Our School Vision' embracing our Aims and Objectives.

### **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](mailto:chair@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk)

Kind Regards

*Peter Irvine*

Chair of Governors

Sedbergh Primary School