

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE GOVERNING BODY OF BURGHFIELD ST MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2020

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Burghfield St Mary's E Primary School's Governing Body 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

The Governing Body of Burghfield St Mary's Primary School was reconstituted in July 2015 and is now made up of 1 Staff Governor and the Headteacher, 3 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 2 Foundation Governors, 5 Co-opted Governors and an Associate Governor.

We currently have no vacancies.

Co-opted Governors are 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. On our Governing Body there are Governors and Associates linked to Safeguarding, SEND and Equality, LAC children, PPG, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Health and Safety, Assessment as well as Core and Non-Core Subjects. Governors so linked have been selected according to their professional experience and skill set.

The full Governing Body (FGB) meets six times a year and has a number of Sub Committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail-

	<p>At Burghfield St Mary's, we have a Finance Committee to review the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent; a Staffing Committee and a Sites and Buildings Committee. We also have other Committees that meet when required.</p> <p>A full list of Governors and their responsibilities is available on the school website.</p>
ATTENDANCE RECORD OF GOVERNORS	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings 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). Details of individual governors' attendance at meetings will be reported in each annual statement and can be seen on the website.</p>
SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	<p>A new School development Plan covering the 2019 and 2020 calendar years was approved in January 2019. The plan (a copy of which is on the school website) has three major aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve overall progress against prior attainment • To constantly improve support for mental health and emotional well being • To maximise the opportunity to deliver the curriculum through the whole school <p>Prior to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March, significant progress was being made. The school achieved the Sandwell Charter Mark In respect of Social, Emotional and Mental Health, with appropriate staff training and a presentation to parents. New topic themes were introduced across the school proving very popular with children and parents and the Re curriculum was re-assessed.</p> <p>Progress with the outdoor classroom has been delayed by planning and funding issues, and the fractured nature of teaching since the March lock down has made it necessary to re-focus some effort.</p>

	A new Plan is currently being drafted and is scheduled to be presented to the Full Governing Body at the next Meeting on 22 nd March 2021.	
GOVERNING BODY PROGRESS REVIEW 2019-2020	<u>What we promised for 2019-2020</u>	<u>What we achieved</u>
	Role 1 Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.	
	Governors to meet fellow Governors from other schools in our partnership to share best practice	Not achieved-not possible due to the Pandemic
	Seek to attain Sandwell Well-Being Charter Mark	Achieved
	Role 2 Holding the Headteacher to Account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff	
	Take part in the Oracy Pioneers Programme giving staff in depth understanding of latest research	Postponed due to the Pandemic. Therefore on-going.
	Provide more support for the Arts and Sport in school	Music lessons restarted 8.3.2021. Sports Extra providing PE and Dance lessons. Interschool competition suspended due to the Pandemic.
	Complete the outdoor classroom	Not achieved-still sourcing outstanding funding.
	Role 3 Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure money is well spent	
	Review our financial procedures	Achieved
	Review our cleaning contract	Ongoing-Best Value quotes being obtained
	Consider improvements to the toilets	Work completed on years 5 and 6 toilets
REVIEW OF YEAR	During 2019-2020, the FGB began the year supporting the Headteacher on the continued journey along our ongoing Development Plan, ensuring it was in keeping with our ethos and priorities.	

It was and is important to maintain our 'good status' (Ofsted Report, 2017); the many strategic initiatives in place in the school development plan will move the school forward as well as continue to ensure the excellent teaching and learning our pupils receive. We endeavoured to maintain the exceptional opportunities for our pupils.

The Global Pandemic created many challenges for everybody, and the FGB worked with the school to support all of the school community during this unprecedented time. The Primary School remained open throughout for keyworker and vulnerable children, with this increasing to include Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

All of the staff at the school worked extremely hard and adapted to deliver the school's online learning programme, whilst supporting the children in school and incorporating the health and safety requirements. We wish to pay tribute to all the school staff who have undertaken many roles to ensure the best possible outcome in a very difficult situation.

Many of our annual events were cancelled, so we missed the trip to Marwell Zoo, PTA Christmas Fayre and many other events.

Exams and statutory tests were not held, but based on the work done in classrooms, we are confident that our pupils' progress is reaching our high standards.

We continued to monitor pupil performance, and are proud of the pupils' continued positive attitudes and eagerness to embrace our broad curriculum.

We continue to monitor how "vulnerable groups" of children will be supported and how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on the outcomes.

	<p>Governors are also responsible for safeguarding children and staff in school and we have a Nominated Governor for Safeguarding who gives regular updates to the governors about any safeguarding matters.</p>
<p>BUDGETARY PRESSURES</p>	<p>The main school budget finished the financial year 2019/20 with a small surplus (£34.6k) slightly greater than budgeted. In-year funding was slightly greater than budgeted, with additional Government funding for the September 2019 Teachers pay awards. The schools net expenditure was slightly less than budgeted. Total staff costs were marginally below budget, but property costs were significantly above budget due to unplanned repairs and increased planned preventative maintenance. The cost of learning resources was only slightly over budget due to substantial contributions from parents and the School Association.</p> <p>The Coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on our school budget, including purchase of PPE and loss of lettings, it has been in the region of £10000 so far. The updated Government regulations as only enable our school to claim back £1000 due to the pandemic. Our PTA has also suffered financially due to the pandemic, this will also impact on our school budget. We have already received some of the 'Catch-up' funding, support for our children started on Tuesday 3rd November.</p> <p>The Pupil Premium fund concluded the financial year with a modest surplus, slightly below the budgeted year-end position. The main reason for this is that the grant funding came in below budget expectations. The Sports and PE Premium carried forward a very healthy surplus, which was significantly higher than budgeted. This was due to planned equipment purchases and budgeted expenditure on swimming being delayed until the next financial year.</p> <p>The onset of Covid-19 has had a major impact on the 2020/1 financial outlook. Revenue expectations have fallen from the loss of lettings, the costs of cleaning & hygiene have increased, and additional staff expenditure has been incurred due to key worker child care over holiday periods.</p> <p>The budget for the year 2020/2021 continues to be very tight. We have continued to improve our resources for the curriculum and also support staff. Both SBM, DHT and HT have worked with the figures and we are looking to have a comfortable surplus at the end of this financial year. This is primarily due to an increase in the number of children on role at census time.</p>

	<p>The school continues to make very effective use of both the PPG Funding and the Sports Funding. We have seen a small increase in our number on role at the October census, this will increase the budget allocation for our school for 2020/21 financial year.</p> <p>Our aim is to finish the financial year with a small surplus. However, the forthcoming years will be incredibly difficult financially.</p>	
<p>FUTURE PLANS FOR THE GOVERNORS</p>	<p><u>What we aim to do in 2020-2021</u></p>	
	<p>Role 1 Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.</p>	
	<p>Ensure that school is a safe environment for pupils and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, Ensure governors are kept up to date with essential changes to safeguarding procedures, Monitor the number of children in school and the continued support of vulnerable families, Review the governors skills matrix to highlight any areas of development for the governing body.</p>	
	<p>Role 2 Holding the Headteacher to Account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff</p>	
	<p>Monitor the success of home learning, Monitor the Health and Well-Being of Staff and the Headteacher, Support the school in its continued completion of and monitoring of risk assessments during the COVID-19 pandemic, Complete the outdoor classroom.</p>	
	<p>Role 3 Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure money is well spent</p>	
	<p>Termly finance committee meetings should continue to take place to ensure the budget is on track, Governors to monitor the effect of additional costs of the COVID-19 pandemic on the school budget, Governors should ensure the COVID 19 'catch up funding' is used effectively to support pupils.</p>	