



# Park Junior School Governors

## Annual Statement 2016/17

In this Annual Statement from Park Junior School Governors we report on the work that we, the head teacher and the staff are doing to ensure that the school is well-managed and provides a good education for our children.

Governors, through day to day contact with the school as well as participating in the various committees and attending events, continually evaluate the role they play within the life of the school, and publish relevant information to parents, carers and other interested parties.

This report continues that evaluation and publication process.

### **The Governors**

The Governing Body comprises 14 with 2 parent governors, 1 Local Authority (LA) governor, 1 staff governor, the head teacher and 9 co-opted governors.

The Governing Body is required to publish the details of anyone who is a governor at the school or has been in the past 12 months, including any relevant business or pecuniary interests. All of this can be found on the [School website](#) and at the time of publishing this statement the Governing Body looks as follows:

| Name   | Type        |
|--|-------------|
| Mark Organ (Chair)                             | LA          |
| Vicki Walker (Vice Chair and Chair Curriculum) | Co-opted    |
| Lynne Robbins (Deputy Head Teacher)            | Co-opted    |
| Nigel Sanders                                  | Co-opted    |
| Paul Stephens                                  | Co-opted    |
| Hilary Heggie                                  | Co-opted    |
| Tracey Law                                     | Co-opted    |
| Anouska Laming Mann                            | Co-opted    |
| Shelley Sanders (Chair Resources Committee)    | Parent      |
| David Evans-Pritchard                          | Parent      |
| Richard Gasser (Headteacher)                   | Headteacher |
| Julie Wyatt                                    | Staff       |
| Vacancies x 2                                  | 2 Co-opted. |

## **Governors' Meetings**

There were 6 full governors meetings for the year 2016 – 2017 and 12 committee meetings. Governor attendance has been of a good level, with any absences having been fully explained, accepted and approved by the Governing Body.

## **Committees**

We have three committees:

### **Curriculum and School Development.**

This committee makes sure that the right subjects are being taught and that teaching is of a high standard. We look at the data about children's results and their achievements. We help to plan for improvement and innovation and help to produce the School Development Plan.

### **Resources Committee**

This committee oversees the budget for the school and how the money is spent. We also deal with staffing matters, the upkeep of the premises and health and safety.

### **Strategic Committee**

This committee supports the head teacher with forward planning. We review the overall performance of the school and ensure that the Governing Body is fully involved in decision making. The Strategic Committee is also responsible for the head teacher's performance management.

## **Governor visits**

The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring responsibilities. This enables us to see the school in action and is a valuable opportunity for governors to be able to work closely with staff members and children. This year governor visits have been targeted and focused on areas pertinent to school development.

Governors have made 16 visits or Learning Walks, to the school in the year, as well as attending the Friday morning recognition and presentation assemblies. Governors also attended Parents' Evening.

Areas covered were:

- Monitoring Social Media
- Maths.
- Writing.
- Behaviour.
- Activities such as Sports Day and the Christmas play.
- Use of performance data.
- Special Educational Needs – policies and provision.
- Pupil Premium.

- Promoting the School
- Attendance

Any issues identified during the visits are recorded and addressed through the Senior Leadership Team.

### **Training**

Governors have received training in:

- Exclusions
- Finance and budgets.
- Safeguarding.

Governors have also received staff presentations on English, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Pupil Premium.

### **Policies**

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date.

Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list. The school's Behaviour Policy was overhauled this year.

### **Financial management**

The Chair of Governors and two other governors have been trained in School Finance management.

The governors have received detailed reports from the Finance Officer and worked with school staff to achieve the Schools Financial Value Standard accreditation.

The governors' role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively and improvements are effective and continuous.

Examples of the impact of governor involvement on school improvement include:

- Upgrading the hot water system
- Internal decoration
- Energy efficiency improvements
- External lighting
- Fire points and equipment

### **Safeguarding**

The Chair of Governors is the nominated Safeguarding Governor and meets the head teacher every week, and at other times if required, to discuss safeguarding matters and the response to any issues raised. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at the Full Governing Body meetings and the Safeguarding policy is reviewed annually by governors.

## **Staff recruitment**

The head teacher, deputy and a number of governors are trained in “Safer Recruitment” Governors are involved in the recruitment and selection of all staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff who share the school’s mission statement and aims are appointed.

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability**

Governors pay particular attention to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those for whom the government allocates extra funding because of their circumstances (Pupil Premium funding).

An external review of SEND has been carried out during this year.

Full details of the [SEN Policy and provision](#) can be found on the school web site.

## **Pupil Premium**

The pupil premium is an allocation of funding provided to schools to support children who may be vulnerable to underachievement. The amount received is dependent on the number of children who are known to be eligible for free school meals and/or are Looked After Children.

In the year 2016/17 the school received £125,240 as a Pupil Premium Grant. Details of the sort of work that was done with that money is published on the School website

## **School Development Plan (SDP) and Governors Development Plan.**

A School Development Plan up to 2018 has been compiled by the head teacher, in consultation with Governors, and this will include ongoing Raising Attainment Plans. Throughout the year the Chair of Governors attended all Raising Attainment Project Board meetings and reported back progress to the Governing Body. As well as their involvement with the SDP the Governors have their own robust development plan.

## **Priorities for 2017/18**

Again the key priority for the Governing Body in the year ahead will be to support the head teacher and his staff in implementing the School Development Plan.

Specifically, actions the Governors have identified include:

- Commissioning a staff well-being survey.
- Image and signage – raising the school profile.
- Sharing best practice with Governors from other schools, particularly local schools.
- Continuing involvement in and monitoring of the SDP, thereby addressing issues raised in the last Ofsted inspection.

- Continuing engagement with the School Council.
- Recruitment of individuals with skills relevant to the Governing Body
- Enhanced engagement with staff.
- Learning walks targeted to the elements of the School Development Plan.
- Evaluation of impact of Governor involvement