

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Robert le Kyng Primary School

July 2015

Structure of the Governing Body

The constitution of the Governing Body of Robert le Kyng Primary School was amended in July 2015 and is now made up of

- Head Teacher
- 3 Parent Governors
- 1 Local Authority appointed Governor
- 1 Staff Governor
- 7 Co-opted Governors (including one current vacancy)

Co-opted Governors are appointed on the basis that they have 'the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school' and can be staff, parents or members of the local community. There are currently no associate members on the Governing Body.

As stated in the Department for Education guidelines, the Governing Body should focus on three core strategic functions:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;

Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff:

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The full Governing Body meets six times a year, with a number of sub-committees which meet frequently throughout the academic year to focus on more specific aspects of the school. Details of membership of these committees can be found on the Governors' webpage under Governors' Roles and Responsibilities.

The Staffing Committee is concerned with all matters of staffing from recruitment to well-being, pay policies and entitlements. The committee aims to ensure that all the staff at the school are equipped with everything they need to be conduits of a safe, happy and successful learning environment.

The Resources Committee is tasked with monitoring the finance (school budget), health and safety matters and premises (maintaining the physical fabric of the school).

There are several smaller committees which meet on an ad-hoc basis and are convened as and when required.

Governor attendance at meetings is excellent and no meeting has had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. Further attendance details can be found on the Governors' webpage under Governors' Record of attendance.

Focus and Achievements of the Governing Body 2014-2015

The Governors have monitored the progress of the School Improvement Plan. The Governors discuss key data regularly to ensure the school is working towards the required results for all pupils and are very pleased with the continuing academic success of the school.

One aspect of this has been the effective use of Pupil Premium funding. The school strongly believes that every child, no matter their socio-economic background, should be nurtured to fulfil their utmost potential.

Therefore, over the past year, the Governors have taken special care of the Pupil Premium Funding to ensure those children that need additional provision get good quality, targeted support. The Governing Body has assigned at least one member to closely monitor the implementation and results of the school's Pupil Premium funded methods of intervention.

This Governor has met with the Pupil Premium Champion three times this year to review the progress of each eligible pupil and to report back to the Governing Body as to the effectiveness of the support given.

During the past year, the Staffing committee has focussed on recruiting good quality teaching staff as well as reviewing the effectiveness of the school's Manual Handling Policy. The Resources committee has ensured the accurate and timely submission of financial documents, reviewed the Accessibility Plan and Charging and Remissions Policy and undertaken a benchmarking exercise to ensure spending is in line with similar schools.

With regard to the school premises and equipment, the Governing Body has had a very productive year during which a new hot water and central heating system has been installed and pipework upgraded. There has also been the acquisition of two minibuses which will allow our Special Resource Provision and the main school to take advantage of more enrichment activities.

The Governors have also updated many key policy documents including Child Protection, Staff Discipline, Conduct and Grievance, E-Safety, Governors' Allowances, Medical Needs and Sex and Relationships. This last policy was drawn up following a consultation exercise with parents.

In consultation with parents, children and staff, the school has developed a set of core values which will be promoted throughout the school to enable our pupils to realise their full potential whilst learning for the future.

Paul Crovella
Chair of Governors

We are always willing to receive feedback and suggestions from parents. Please feel free to contact us by email: clerktoqovs@robertlekyng.swindon.sch.uk or through the school office.