

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Temple Sowerby Church of England Primary School 2016/17.

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of our Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction.
2. Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and for the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Board of Governors of Temple Sowerby Church of England Primary School is currently made up of:

- 3 parent governors
- 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher)
- 1 Local Authority governor
- 3 co-opted governors
- 2 Foundation governors

More details of the governors, their areas of expertise and their attendance records will be found on the school website.

The Full Governing Body meets at least once each term and we also have 2 committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. The minutes of these committees feed into the meetings of the full Governing Body. These committees are:

- Teaching and Learning Committee
- Resources and Finance Committee

The work that we have completed in our committees and through direct governor involvement in school activities during the past year includes:

- A review of the work of the Governing body and a re-structuring of the committees, their terms of reference and membership
- Budget monitoring
- Pupil premium / sports fund monitoring
- Responding to an in-depth external Health and Safety audit and prioritising the recommendations and suggestions
- Scheduled policies and procedures updated and reviewed on a rolling basis
- Greater involvement in the monitoring of pupil assessment and achievement
- Governor training, including attendance at workshops on 'Safeguarding' and 'on-line safety'

- Support for the Upper Eden Rural Alliance cluster of local schools
- Development of the school website to better reflect the ethos and activities of the school and to ensure easier navigation
 - Breakfast and after school club developed to better meet the needs of parents and to provide more support for those in work

Strategic Planning for the Future

- All members of the governing body to have Level 1 Safeguarding training
- Safeguarding procedures to be audited and reviewed: a range of exercises to be carried out over the coming year and led by the newly formed Safeguarding sub-committee
- More concise financial reporting arrangements to be made to ensure all governors are aware of the situation at each full GB meeting
- A log kept of all governor training
- Preparation and training for a future Ofsted visit
- A new governor skills audit to be carried out
- Consideration given to password protected governor portal on the web site for key documents
- Governors to be made fully aware of the protocol for complaints and follow through procedures

Agreed at the full GB meeting on 15th June 2017.