



Annual Governance Statement 2022-23

Governors hold an important public office, and in the interests of transparency, their identity and arrangements for governance should be known to the school and the wider community.

The Board of Governors

Name	Date of appointment	End of office	Role/type
Clare Sampson	N/A	N/A	Headteacher
Laura Tuttlebee	21/09/23	20/09/27	Staff
Ian Thoroughgood	12/12/22	11/12/26	Parent
Richard Wheatley	13/11/2020	12/11/2024	Parent
Chris Burns (Chair)	01/09/23	31/08/2027	Co-opted
Simon Rothwell (Vice-chair)	03/08/20	02/08/24	Foundation
Laveena Kerr	11/01/23	10/01/27	Parent
Hayley Aherne	11/10/23	10/10/27	Co-opted

The Board of Governors maintains a skills matrix which demonstrates the diverse skills held by Governors. This document informs any appointments to ensure the Board of Governors maintain the skills required to be effective. Current Governor details can be found within the Governor profiles on the website.

Clerk to Governors

Schools Choice Clerking Service.

Committees

Terms of reference for the Committees are available upon request. Some committees or named Governors receive specific training to be able to carry out their functions effectively.

Our committees are designed to offer support and challenge to the school.

Resources Committee	Headteachers Performance Review Group	Learning, Standards and Achievements (LSA) Committee
Ian Thoroughgood (Chair) Headteacher Simon Rothwell Amanda Woollard Laveena Kerr	Chris Burns (Chair) Hayley Aherne External advisor	Chris Burns (Chair) Headteacher Laveena Kerr Ian Thoroughgood Laura Tuttlebee (D/H)

Appeals Committee	Hearing's Committee	Pupil Discipline Committee
Minimum of three Governors subject to impartiality and availability.	Minimum of three Governors subject to impartiality and availability.	Minimum of three Governors subject to impartiality and availability.

Area of Governance	Named Governors
Training	Chris Burns
Data and Assessment	LSA Committee
Pupil Premium/Catch up Premium	LSA Committee
SEND	LSA Committee
Safeguarding	Richard Wheatley
GDPR	FGB
Siams, Caw and RE	Simon Rothwell
Sports and PE	LSA Committee
Website compliance	FGB
Early Years	Hayley Aherne
Behaviour and Attitudes	LSA Committee
Curriculum	LSA Committee
Finance	Finance Committee

Attendance

Attendance records for the Board and committee meetings can be found on the school website.

Training undertaken by Governors

During the academic year, Governors have attended training sessions run by Schools Choice, NGA and e-learning modules which are now generally held online. When considering the skills and training Governors require, particular attention is given to four core strategic functions of the Board of Governors:

- Safeguarding
- 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.

A copy of the training record for Governors follows this document.

Chair's statement/statement from the Board

As we ended the academic year 2022-23 there was a distinct sense of change at school with the retirement of Mrs Mitchell and the promotion of Mrs Baker. Our new Headteacher, Mrs Sampson, and her Deputy, Mrs Tuttlebee, have made a very positive start to their time at the school and we look forward to working with them to ensure we are the best we can be. Visiting recently, there is a definite 'buzz' around the school with pupils enjoying their work and the opportunities they are provided with.

We strive to continue to support the work of the school. We have worked together in our strategic role:

- To oversee the curriculum to ensure that we address any gaps created by the pandemic and homeschooling
- To ensure pupils still enjoy school, feel valued and part of the school community
- To ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To ensure pupil attainment is monitored and maximised
- To oversee and approve the school's budget
- To ensure the staff are supported as needed
- To oversee policies and procedures

Over the year 2022-23 we again combined the Governor Action Plan within the School Development Plan to show that we are all one team and working towards the same objectives. We have made good progress against the plan and our Year 6 SAT results were, once again, pleasing reflecting the hard work of pupils and staff. However, we are not complacent and we continue to look at ways to improve our outcomes further. Our School Improvement Plan for 2023-24 clearly identifies the key areas for the school to improve further.

We regularly review our roles and the experience, knowledge and skills we individually bring to the Board, ensuring there are no gaps that could affect our efficient governance of the school. We continue to identify suitable training and have been able to attend some remote training sessions. Going into 2023-24, we have recently recruited Hayley Aherne as a co-opted Governor and Mrs Tuttlebee has joined us as the staff Governor. We continue to use the Schools Choice clerking service who are also available for advice if needed and who provide training and briefings to help us keep well informed. Most of us attend at least 2 or 3 training sessions a year. We are very happy with the support we receive from our clerk.

We continue to review policies and procedures to ensure that these are fit for purpose and meet not only our legal responsibilities, but also our vision and aims for the school and our pupils. The children and staff remain at the forefront of our decisions as we endeavour to provide the best educational environment for them.

We continue to closely monitor the school budget to ensure the school can cope with the funding received and the ever increasing costs. This is a constant challenge but our budget is well managed and healthy enabling us to continue the investment in our children's learning and development. We continue to be grateful to the PFA for the fantastic support

they give the schools in terms of fund raising, resources, time and commitment. Their work really does make a difference.

The school has achieved most of this year's School Development Plan (SDP) although we continue to work on some areas. Areas we have met are:

- The implementation of the CLUSP curriculum
- More focus on the teaching of reading across the school
- My Happy Mind implemented
- Continuation of the "this girl can" initiative
- Continued development of subject leadership
- Church Council established
- Introduction of work to support the development of writing across the school
- Continuation of work to improve outcomes for disadvantaged and SEND pupils

Items for the School Improvement Plan (SIP) 2023/24 include:

- Improved attainment in writing, building on previous work
- Improved attainment in Maths for girls
- Continuation of work to improve outcomes for disadvantaged and SEND pupils
- To secure a shared vision of 'Growth Mindset'
- To introduce a School Council
- To ensure Governors are fully prepared for OFSTED and SIAMs inspections
- To refine the school rules to sit under the headings: Be Kind, Be Safe and Be respectful

Meetings

The Full Board of Governors meets termly. The Resources Committee and LSA Committee also meet termly. Other committees meet as required.

Other Documents

Other documents available from the Governor's section of the website:

- The Board of Governors Code of Conduct
- Governor profiles
- Register of Business and Pecuniary Interests

Chris Burns
Chair of Governors