

# Forty Hill CE School Governing Body

## Annual Statement to Parents September 2019



The major focus of the governors of Forty Hill CE School is to ensure that our pupils progress appropriately in their education and as individuals. The Governing Body appreciate that for this to happen the pupils must be supported by a well led, enthusiastic, professionally competent and motivated staff all working together within a safe, supportive, stimulating environment. Governors appreciate too the requirements of our children's parents and carers and their need to be satisfied about the overall leadership and management of the school and how it affects safety, learning and enjoyment of their children.

To achieve their objectives, governors must continually evaluate the role they have played within the life of the school, and publish relevant information to all interested parties.

This annual statement is part of that evaluation and publication process.

### **The Governing Body – 2019-20**

The Governing Body comprises of 10 governors: 5 Foundation Governors and 5 Representative Governors. All governors are volunteers and offer a wide range of skills and experience.

#### **Foundation Governors**

1 of the Foundation Governors is a nominee of the London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS), 1 is a nominee of the Enfield Deanery Synod and 2 are from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Jesus Church. The vicar of Jesus Church is also a Foundation Governor, ex officio.

Ms Holly Evans	PCC
Mrs Funmi Worrell	PCC
Mrs Ruth Moore	Enfield Deanery
Rev'd Ian Crofts (Vice Chair)	Ex Officio      Vicar of Jesus Church
Mrs Zoey Dickson	LDBS

*There are currently two vacancies – one for a PCC Governor and one for a LDBS Governor.*

#### **Representative Governors**

The Representative Governors include 1 nominated by the Local Authority (LA), 2 elected parent governors and 1 elected staff governor. The Headteacher is also part of the Governing Body, ex officio.

Mr Chris Müller (Chair)	LA Appointee
Mrs Helen Buller	Elected Staff
Mrs Gemma Browes	Elected Parent
Mr Barry Young	Elected Parent
Mr Josh Newham	Ex Officio      Headteacher

#### **Clerk to the Governors**

Mrs Anna Keelan BSc (Hons) DipSBM

All communication to the governors should be through the school office, via email ([office@fortyhill.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@fortyhill.enfield.sch.uk)), telephone (020 8363 0760) or letter.

## **Function of the Governing Body**

The Governors of the school provide strategic leadership and accountability and make an important contribution to the school's wellbeing and effectiveness.

As the governing body, we have four core functions:

- **ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**

*Governors are responsible for setting the school's strategic framework, identifying priorities for school improvement and monitoring progress towards these goals. We are also responsible for setting a school ethos of high expectations of behaviour, progress and attainment of all pupils and of conduct of staff and governors.*

- **holding the headteacher and Senior Management Team to account for the educational performance of the school, its pupils and the performance management of the staff**

*Governors must provide challenge to the school and hold the headteacher and senior leaders to account for improving the quality of teaching and learning and school performance. We do this through questioning and through regular monitoring and analysis of data on children's performance and progress. Governors hold the headteacher to account for the performance management of teachers. The headteacher's performance management is conducted by governors.*

- **overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring that the budget is spent effectively**

*Governors look at financial statements and ask questions to ensure that the school makes efficient use of its budget and provides best value for money. Each year the Governing Body considers:*

- *Standards of attainment and progress of all year groups and groups of children across the school*
- *Attendance and punctuality*
- *Staffing*
- *Finance*
- *Health and Safety*
- *Regular review of the School Development Plan and the School's Self Evaluation*

- **realising a shared Christian vision for the school**

*Governors provide further challenge to the school leaders to ensure that the school maintains and promotes a distinctive Christian character and holds leaders to account for evidencing this. Questioning, learning walks, surveys and engaging with the whole community allows the Governors to oversee this feature of school improvement and development.*

## **Review of the 2018-19 Academic Year**

During the 2018-19 school year, the Governors have particularly focused on:

- Understanding the importance and uniqueness of the Wider Curriculum at Forty Hill
- Wellbeing of School Staff
- The progress and review of the School Development Plan
- Continuing to strengthen the Governing Body, with link Governors, committees and themes for the meetings to ensure that all Governors know the school the best they can
- Strengthening understanding of the new SIAMS inspection schedule and analysing the Christian distinctiveness of the school
- Visits to the school
- Working with the Headteacher to improve the IT infrastructure
- Analysing data and achievement across the school, as well as Greater Depth at KS2
- The EYFS environment

## **The Governing Body**

The Governing Body has extensive knowledge from different walks of life, both educational and non-educational. This ensures a wide scope of challenge and accountability for the leadership and management of the school. The

Governors have had GAP training and conducted a self-review to better challenge the school leaders and to ensure that they are able to report accurately on the outcomes of pupils and performance of the school. The Governing Body take a keen interest in the curriculum provided by the teaching staff, bettering their understanding by conducting school visits, talking to staff and pupils and gathering information from books and learning taking place in the classroom.

The Governing Body has seven (7) meetings per annum as a Full Governing Body as well as committees to review pay and performance of staff, the Vision, Values and Christian Distinctiveness of the School, Admissions and School Finance.

### **Staffing**

The Governors believe that the quality of teaching staff and teaching is integral to the improvement of standards. The Headteacher and his senior leadership team, sometimes accompanied by representatives from the Local Authority, LDBS or another Headteacher from a local school, has conducted a series of lesson observations and learning walks throughout the academic year and judge the teaching and learning in the school as consistently good or better.

2018-2019 saw few changes to the teaching team and the governors are pleased to report that, for the start of the 2019-2020 academic year, the school has a balanced, settled and full complement of well qualified teachers, support staff and leaders. The Governors regularly reviewed the performance of teachers during the past academic year, through headteacher's reports and feedback from aspect reviews as well as the examination of school data to be proactive in ensuring teaching is of the highest quality.

### **Quality of Education**

The Governing Body is fully supportive of the school's vision and values and committed to working with the leadership team to create a fulfilled, healthy and successful learning environment for each and every child at the school. Mathematics, Reading and Writing continues to be a strength of the school, as well as the outstanding RE provision. The Governing Body has been impressed with the wider curriculum at Forty Hill and particularly appreciate the impact it has on the pupils, both academically and emotionally.

The Governing Body were delighted with the outcomes in 2019, particularly the outstanding KS2 SATs results, which saw the school achieve excellent results and maintain its position as one of the best schools in the local authority for academic achievement. The Greater depth results reflect the improvements to the curriculum. The EYFS, Phonics and KS1 Statutory outcomes were also very good, with improvements noted in all areas identified on the School Development Plan. Internal data for all classes validates the assessment system, as data and analysis, along with pupil progress is tracked in a rigorous and robust manner, allowing Governors to challenge the leadership team and ensure that no child is left behind. The school was moderated by the Local Authority in EYFS and Year 6, ensuring that our reporting of assessment judgements is accurate.

The Finance Committee worked with the Headteacher and School Business Manager to approve the replacement of the old interactive whiteboards with brand new, state of the art interactive screens. A thorough process was conducted in order to ensure best value for money and best outcomes for children and staff. The children and staff comment regularly on how much they enjoy using the new screens in their learning.

### **Behaviour and Personal Development Pupil Outcomes**

The Leadership team has ensured that the children are given the opportunity to develop well as human beings, particularly through the teaching of PSHE and Philosophy for Children. The teaching of British Values as well as opportunities for children to develop their articulacy and own opinions is a great strength of the school, recognised by the Local Authority and LDBS. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development is key to ensuring that children have a well-balanced 'whole' education at Forty Hill. We are proud of the Reaching Out Programme, which sees every child take part in a programme to support the wider community.

Behaviour at the school is very good, with any issues of inequality or bullying tackled immediately by the leadership and reported to the Governing Body. Governors fully support the behaviour system of the school, in line with our vision of giving every child every opportunity to be fulfilled, healthy and successful, learning through mistakes and learning forgiveness and respect.

The Governors have supported the leadership team in their creative use of the International Primary Curriculum (IPC) through Topic Wednesdays (soon to be Fridays) as well as the exciting opportunities given to the children through enrichment opportunities such as John Gilbert, Debating and Maths masterclasses. The Governors are keen to ensure that further enrichment opportunities are given to the children even in light of the shrinking budget. The Introduction of Parent Workshops and Topic Afternoons have been highly successful, as well as the Online Safety sessions for children and parents, which is vital for all in this day and age.

### **Leadership and Management**

The Governing Body is fully supportive of the Headteacher and his senior management team, and have supported the many changes brought about for school improvement. We are proud of our school and believe that our staff are our biggest asset.

As part of the school leadership, the Governing Body works co-operatively with the headteacher and senior leadership team to monitor the School Development Plan (SDP) and take part in a Self-Evaluation of the School. The School Development Plan sets aims for the school based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SDP is set out with clear aims, the key tasks which will be completed in order to achieve these aims and the success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SDP is monitored and reviewed termly, with an evaluation overview being completed and presented to Governors within the headteacher report. The Chair of Governors meets fortnightly with the Headteacher and termly with the Senior Management Team to discuss improvements and progress towards meeting the SDP.

### **EYFS**

The EYFS environment, both inside and outside the classroom was a particular focus of the school this year. Governors have noted that the environment reflects the challenge and opportunity that we wish our youngest children to have, as well as the freedom and exploration that allows them to learn. Results at EYFS were moderated by the Local Authority and we were pleased with the progress that the children have made.

### **Focus for the 2019-20 Academic Year**

During the 2019-20 school year, the Governors will particularly focus on:

- Reviewing and analysing the School Development Plan
- Maintain Christian distinctiveness and effectiveness as a church school
- Staff and pupil mental health and wellbeing
- Ensuring that Spiritual Moral Social Cultural Education (SMSC) and the Wider Curriculum (including outdoor learning and enrichment) continues to be a strength of the school
- Ensuring financial stability in uncertain times for school finance
- Recruiting Governors for key positions

This Annual Statement was co-written and published in September 2019 by Chris Müller (Chair of Governors) and Josh Newham (Headteacher).