



**Learn, Aspire, Achieve**

## The Governance Statement

### **Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Churwell Primary School July 2017**

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

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

#### **Governance arrangements**

The Governing Body of Churwell Primary School was re-constituted in 2014 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Head teacher), 3 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 7 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body five of the Co-opted governors are parents and two are members of the local community. At July 2017, we have no vacancies.

The full Governing Body meets five times a year, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At Churwell Primary we have a Resources Committee, which focuses on finance, premises and some personnel matters; a Teaching and Learning Committee, a Pupil Support Committee, Pay and Performance Committee, Pay Appeals Committee and a Strategic Committee which comprises of the Chairs of all the other committees.

#### **Attendance record of governors**

Governors have good attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See p5 for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings.

**The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body**

The Governing Body has had a busy but enjoyable year, focusing on school improvement and building on the success of our 'Good' Ofsted inspection (June 2016). We continued to support Mrs Barson as she began her first full year as Head Teacher and were involved in the appointment of a permanent Deputy Head. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Oakley into her new role and to see the Senior Leadership Team take on new challenges and develop Churwell Primary. We are proud and excited to be involved in new initiatives such as Growth Mindset and Rainbow Rules which we can see are having a positive impact on the pupils and the learning environment.

The Teaching & Learning Committee has spent significant time reviewing the School Development Plan which feeds into all aspects of life at Churwell. The quality of teaching and learning has been reviewed with the leadership team with a view to ensure that the high expectations of the school are achieved. SAT's results are reviewed each year by the committee in respect of their performance against previous years and other schools locally and nationally. The committee also has an obligation to review how the Pupil Premium grant which school receives is best spent to help disadvantaged children and how the gap can be closed between lower and high achievers. The committee meets with those teachers within school responsible for specific subjects on an annual basis to better understand how teaching and learning operates in school.

The Resources Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and makes decisions about how the school should use the budget. Early in the summer term, we approved the 2017/18 budget plan for the school; we are pleased to report that the school is in a healthy position financially and can afford to operate the staffing plan which has been very carefully considered before being communicated to parents. We are certain that this will produce significant benefits across the school. We are also pleased that we have been able to maintain the school premises to a high standard and fund some improvements to outdoor spaces and IT.

The Pay and Performance committee continues to work closely with the Head Teacher and has become a more integrated part of the appraisal process and associated pay decisions. The committee is kept abreast of staffing changes to ensure that any impacts on pay are considered. The committee also has close links to the Resources committee to ensure pay decisions are considered within the provisions of the staffing budget.

	<p>The Pupil support committee reviews matters that affect pupils whilst they are at school. Throughout the year we have continued to focus on reviewing and updating a vast number of policies to ensure that they are appropriate and up to date. Key areas of discussion include behaviour (and the introduction of rainbow rules) as well as the statutory areas of attendance, SEN and safeguarding to name a few. The committee have also monitored progress on the behaviour strand of the school development plan each term. The Governors on the committee have had greater involvement this year and have established closer relations with the school with a number of visits throughout the year to discuss the provision for Safeguarding, Attendance, LAC, SEN and Equalities.</p> <p>Governors are also particularly proactive about safeguarding and we have a nominated governor for Safeguarding (Mrs Cooper) who produces an annual report to the governors about any safeguarding matters.</p> <p>One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies, including Single Equality Policy and Safeguarding.</p> <p>A group of governors have worked with Mrs Barson to ensure the appointment of a new Deputy was successful. The Governing Body are pleased with how the new team have brought about changes and improvements yet maintained the school ethos and ensured Churwell Primary is a wonderful place to learn.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents –you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<p><b>Future plans for the governors</b></p>	<p>The Governing Body is looking forward to supporting the school in 2017/18 and continuing on our way to ‘Outstanding’.</p>
<p><b>How you can contact the governing body</b></p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents; please contact the Chair of Governors, Sarah O’Hagan, via the school office or by emailing <a href="mailto:s.o’hagan-gov@churwellprimary.org.uk">s.o’hagan-gov@churwellprimary.org.uk</a> or talk to us when you see us around school. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.</p>

### Churwell Primary School Governing Body

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Term of office expiry date</b>
Matthew Appleby	Parent Governor	01/02/2020
Ali Archbold	Co-Opted Governor	07/05/2021
Rupa Barson	Head Teacher	N/A
Lisa Cooper	Co-Opted Governor	11/05/2019
Pete Holmes	Co-Opted Governor	06/10/2018
Natalie Marshment	Co-Opted Governor	20/11/2020
Kate McGough	Co-Opted Governor	20/11/2020
Claire Oakley	Staff Governor	20/11/2020
Sarah O'Hagan (Chair)	LA Governor	31/10/2020
Farah Shippam (Vice Chair) (Chair of Pupil Support)	Parent Governor	06/10/2018
Claire Staveley (Chair of Resources) (Chair of Pay & Performance)	Parent Governor	06/10/2018
Simeon Sutton	Co-Opted Governor	31/07/2017 - Resigned
Steve Webber (Chair of Teaching & Learning)	Parent Governor	07/05/2021

### Churwell Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2016-2017

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Full Governing Body</b>	<b>Resources Committee</b>	<b>Teaching &amp; Learning</b>	<b>Pay &amp; Performance</b>	<b>Pupil Support</b>
Matthew Appleby	100%	67%	N/A	N/A	75%
Ali Archbold	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
Rupa Barson	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Lisa Cooper	75%	100%	N/A	0%	100%
Pete Holmes	75%	N/A	50%	N/A	N/A
Natalie Marshment	100%	N/A	75%	N/A	N/A
Kate McGough	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
Claire Oakley	100%	N/A	75%	N/A	100%
Sarah O'Hagan	100%	100%	100%	N/A	N/A
Farah Shippam	100%	N/A	N/A	100%	100%
Claire Staveley	100%	67%	N/A	100%	N/A
Simeon Sutton	25%	67%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Steve Webber	100%	N/A	100%	N/A	100%