

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of Penns Primary School July 2017

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all governing bodies the three core strategic functions of the Penns Governing Board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, and strategic direction
2. Holding the Headteacher 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.

The Governing Board was reconstituted in March 2015 and consists of:

- 2 staff Governors, the Headteacher and one elected member of staff
- 3 elected parent governors
- 1 Local Authority governor
- 6 Co-opted governors

Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Board and are people who, in the opinion of the Governing Board, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The Governing Board is supported by a professional clerk.

The Governing Board regularly undertakes skills audits to ensure that the Board has the necessary mix of skills and experience to enable full and effective fulfilment of our duties.

The Full Governing Board meets at least once each term and has two sub committees to allow more detailed oversight of areas. The two committees and their areas of responsibility are:

Resources; finance, staffing, premises to include health and safety.

Pupils and Curriculum; standards, attainment, use of Pupil Premium.

Attendance record of governors.

Attendance at both Full Governing Board and committees has been excellent with all meetings quorate. Full details of individual governor's attendance are available on the school website in the "Governors" section.

The work that we have done.

This has been a busy year for the school and the governors.

We have contributed to the identification of priorities for the school improvement plan and then monitored progress against these priorities.

We regularly review pupil attainment data and discharge our responsibilities by holding the Headteacher and staff to account through challenging questions.

We approve and then monitor the allocation and use of the school budget, a particularly difficult area at present as our basic costs are increasing at a much faster pace than the budget allocation.

A representative group of governors was interviewed by the OFSTED inspector; we were delighted with the outcome of the inspection and the inspector's recognition of the contribution of the Governing Board:

"Governors know the school well and understand your current priorities for development. In discussions about the school's next steps, governors were keen to discuss and clarify how they can challenge and support the school to secure further improvements. The governors' approach to the meetings I held with them demonstrates their ambition and tenacity."

We have reviewed and agreed the key school policies and have a rolling programme for these reviews overseen by the clerk to the governors.

The minutes of Governing Board meetings are public documents and are available through the school office.

Safeguarding and Pupil Welfare

The Governing Board carry out its functions with the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of child central to all decisions and ensures the school fully complies with all relevant statutory guidance and local procedures.

Future plans for Governors.

The Board will continue to focus on contributing to the development of the school improvement plan and then monitoring progress. We will work to help the school make the very best use of the available resources and continue to scrutinise closely the costs and quality of support from external providers.

How to contact the Governing Board.

We always welcome suggestions, ideas and feedback from parents. You can contact the Chair of the Governing Board, John Clemson, through the school office.

Penns Primary School Governing Board

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Specialist Area</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Term of office expiry</u>
Ebony Campbell	Literacy	Co-opted	06/07/20
John Clemson (Chair)		Local Authority	18/10/19
Maureen Jones		Headteacher	Ex-officio
Lisa Martin	SEN	Co-opted	17/01/20
Harky Phagura		Parent	08/07/19
Levain Preston (Vice-chair)	Safeguarding	Parent	17/01/20
Rebecca Sheffield		Co-opted	26/03/19
Zoe Throup	Numeracy	Parent	17/01/20
Ann Unsworth		Staff	08/04/2018

There are three vacancies for Co-opted Governors.