



Sedgefield Primary School

Learning Together for Life

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Sedgefield Primary School 2018

School Vision Statement

Learning

We are committed to providing the best possible education in a stimulating, inclusive, environment; where children are happy, secure and enjoy all aspects of their school experience. Children are encouraged to aim for excellence and are nurtured to achieve their full potential.

Together

We encourage a feeling of belonging to a school family, within which friendship, kindness, respect for others and exemplary behaviour are the basis on which our children thrive.

For Life

We enable our children to gain confidence, take initiative, be independent, be responsible and have pride in themselves, their school and their community.

The Governing Body of Sedgefield Primary School has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

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

<p>Governance arrangements</p>	<p>The governing body of Sedgefield Primary School was reconstituted in September 2015 and is made up of 15 governors: 1 Local Authority Governor; 8 co-opted governors; 4 parent governors; 1 staff governor and the Head teacher. The full Governing body meets once each term. We also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and General Purposes Committee which focusses on finance and premises issues; • Learning Together for Life Committee which considers the school curriculum, pupil achievement and well-being; • Personnel Committee which considers staffing issues and a • Pay Review Committee. <p>There are other committees, which meet when required. All committees have clear terms of reference, which are set out in the Committees Booklet.</p> <p>In addition, there are groups which meet from time to time, to look at governance, marketing, the setting up of nursery provision, etc.</p>
<p>Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body</p>	<p>The school received an Ofsted Inspection in November 2017 and the Governing Body contributed significantly to the judgement of 'Good' for Leadership and Management and its work was praised by the Inspector, Michael Reeves.</p> <p>The governing body has had a busy year, focussing on school improvement and in particular on writing. In addition, the Governors agreed to set up a Governor Led Nursery Provision from September 2017, due to the demand in the community. The first year of Nursery provision was very successful and the school now has an 'Early Years Unit' including Nursery and Reception that is very effective in preparing the children for the next stage of their learning. Results for Reception at the end of the year were the best ever.</p> <p>The Learning Together for Life Committee has spent time considering key data showing the results of pupil achievement and progress and how school can best meet the needs of all learners. They also monitored closely the use of our Pupil Premium and Sport Premium allocations.</p> <p>The Finance and General Purposes Committee monitored the budget carefully, as it is always tight and we want to ensure we are providing the best value for money. The impact of Nursery was carefully considered.</p> <p>The Personnel Committee oversaw several appointments, including two new members of the admin team.</p> <p>Governors have been continuing their in-depth self-review, including a skills audit. The purpose of this self-review is to ensure the governing body is as effective as it possibly can be and that it continues to develop and improve, through being self-evaluative. Governors have attended a range of training opportunities to</p>

	<p>extend their own skills in strategic monitoring of the school. Governors have carried out a number of visits to monitor and evaluate the work of the school.</p>
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>The curriculum is engaging and vibrant. It meets the needs of all of the learners in school and is enhanced with a variety of visits and visitors. Our assessment systems work well and KS2 attainment is consistently high. Progress is good throughout school. Detailed information is available for parents of children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities and the school is fully compliant with statutory procedures. Governors have attended training.</p> <p>Programmes are in place to “diminish the difference”, making use of Pupil Premium spending, but more work is continuing in this area.</p> <p>The Sports Premium is being used very effectively. All KS2 children are given the opportunity to represent the school in at least one competition or festival. There are many opportunities for talented pupils to compete and a wide variety of extra-curricular sporting activities. The school teams are very successful. All children are given the opportunity to experience sports they may not normally take part in (e.g. climbing, ice skating, inflatable obstacle courses). We achieved the School Games Silver Award, which reflects our commitment to PE and sport.</p> <p>The school also achieved Arts Mark Silver and were re-accredited with the EQualities Award, demonstrating its commitment to all aspects of equality and diversity.</p> <p>In addition, 96% of the Year 1 children (all but 1 child) achieved the expected standard in the phonics screening test and the school received a letter of congratulations from Nick Gibb, M.P.</p> <p>The governing body self-review process is ongoing. Many aspects identified have already been addressed and we continue to strive to improve even further. Including further refining governor monitoring.</p>
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<p>The governing body will continue to evaluate its effectiveness and work on its action plan to continue to refine effective practices, including further developing governor monitoring to support the school’s identified improvement areas.</p> <p>Ensuring outstanding practice throughout early years is a priority for another year following the first successful year of Nursery provision.</p> <p>Writing is a school focus once again, ensuring all aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar are embedded in KS1 and lower KS2.</p> <p>Another area of the School Improvement Plan is ‘Challenge for All’. The school’s focus on ‘diminishing the difference’ for</p>

	<p>disadvantaged pupils will continue to be closely monitored. Due to a likely deficit for 2019-20, the governing body will monitor the budget closely and look for ways to tackle the issue which will have the least impact on the children's learning.</p>
Contact Details	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr Dudley Waters, c/o the school office.</p> <p>Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.</p>