

Governor Impact Statement 2019 – 2020

The role of the Governing Body is a fundamental part of the leadership of the school, although often unseen by parents and the community. This impact statement is one way in which the governing body articulates their role in school leadership and the effect we have on school improvement.

The Governing Body is made up for a group of dedicated volunteers, who invest a huge amount of passion, knowledge and time for the sole purpose of improving the education of every child in our school.

Each year, the governors of Farncombe C of E Infant School undertake a variety of activities in order to fulfil our statutory duties. These duties cover five key areas of responsibility which are outlined below:

Areas of responsibility	Focus	Evidence of impact
Ensure the clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.	A new vision statement was discussed and adopted. Staff and governors engaged with the creation of this .	Governors approved the vision statement for the school : ‘Let all you do be done in love’ is our guiding vision for our speech, deeds and thoughts.
	The Governors have contributed to the drafting of and review of the School Development Plan (SDP) . Key SDP strands identified: 1. To refine the teaching of writing through Talk4Writing 2. To grow and enhance opportunities for spiritual development in school 3. To begin to develop a ‘forest school’ and use to enhance the current curriculum 4. To increase communication with parents	Governing Body minutes illustrate a thorough scrutiny of the SDP. Discussions ensured that priority areas were identified through analysis of pupil progress and attainment as well as from wider governor monitoring. 1. A Governor visit focusing on literacy secured scrutiny of Talk4Writing. 2. The governors approved the new vision statement for the school. This enables us to create a nurturing and inspiring environment in which everyone can have life in all its fullness. 3. Headteacher reports have described progress with the forest school project. Challenges presented by COVID have been acknowledged but the project remains a priority for the school. 4. Governor training and reports have led to changes in approach to some aspects of communication between school and parents. Challenge questions evidenced in Governor minutes illustrate scrutiny of reporting arrangements and some subsequent changes to procedures. Feedback from a Year R parent questionnaire were reviewed and actions taken in response.
	Godalming Learning Partnership. The Governing Body continues to be involved in the development of the GLP and ensure that the partnership, and Farncombe Infant Schools’ commitment to and participation, is beneficial to the vision and strategic direction of the school.	The FGB have reviewed the Constitution of GLP, Terms of Reference, the Memorandum of Understanding, the Funding Agreement and other operational documents. A Governor has been appointed to support the Chair at GLP meetings to ensure continuity.

<p>Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.</p>	<p>Educational Performance Data Analysis and Oversight. Full Governing Body Learning and Curriculum Meetings ensure that pupil progress is discussed in detail, with attention to all ability groups and relevant variables, including Pupil Premium, gender, disadvantaged children, attainment level, and SEND.</p>	<p>FGB meeting minutes illustrate scrutiny of data and how it is reported. Headteacher reports identify areas of focus and related actions that secure strong outcomes for each group. Governor challenge questions are evidenced in FGB minutes. Where further evidence is required, this is requested from the Head teacher – these challenge questions are evidenced in FGB minutes. Governor visits enable further scrutiny. An increased number of school visits occurred during last academic year ensuring a greater depth of understanding of school issues and performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy Visit : Sept 2019 • EYFS Visit : Sept 2019 • Maths Visit : Nov 2019 • Governor Visit : March 2020 • SEND Report : May 2020 • COVID Provision : May 2020 <p>Examples of the impact of our constructive challenge and analysis :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions around playground supervision • Scrutiny of data and reporting • Follow up on Governor Visit Reports • Follow up to parental questionnaires
	<p>Staff Performance Management :The Head teacher reports to the governing body on the quality of teaching. The CoG meets regularly with the Head to discuss staff performance and management issues.</p>	<p>The CoG and Head teacher have reviewed the outcome of school teaching staff appraisals.</p> <p>Three nominated governors completed the Head teacher’s own annual Appraisal/Performance Management process with the support of an external consultant</p>
<p>Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent</p>	<p>The Full Governing Body (FGB) review the school budget in detail with the support of the School Business Manager.</p>	<p>Budget approval was ratified by the Full Governing Body following full scrutiny of the budget, deficit and reserves.</p> <p>The FGB has reviewed the capital rolling programme of works including approval of the repair of the roof above Sycamore classroom; replacement of the George Road gate; replacement of wooden fencing with metal gates.</p> <p>The FGB have reviewed Financial Monitoring Reports at resource based meetings. In June the FGB considered and approved the application for</p>

	<p>It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to complete the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) which is evidence of the governors' oversight of the effective management of school finances.</p> <p>The Governing Body is committed to ensuring that it is represented by experts in the field of financial management.</p>	<p>additional COVID grant money to support the school through the challenges of the pandemic.</p> <p>Consideration has been given to the admissions arrangements at other local primary schools with regard to the impact on Farncombe CofE Infant School.</p> <p>The use of Pupil premium funding has been reviewed and approved.</p> <p>SFVS return has been completed and returned.</p>
<p>Ensuring statutory duties are met and priorities approved</p>	<p>Health and Safety : Two governors monitor Health and Safety. They note actions required and follow up on actions from previous inspections.</p>	<p>The FGB can confirm that fire drill expectations have been met. There has been a particular scrutiny on fire drill and 'back to class' procedures this year as evidenced in the Governors challenge questions within minutes eg issues relating to staff signing in.</p> <p>The Risk Management Plan in response to COVID 19 was approved and implemented.</p> <p>A link governor to review well-being will be appointed.</p>
	<p>Policy Review : Governors ensure that school policies are appropriate, up to date and accurate.</p>	<p>Policies that have been reviewed and approved this year are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Management Policy • Anti Bullying Policy • Induction Policy • Sickness Absence Policy (discontinued as now covered in other policies)
<p>Ensuring the governance of the school is effective</p>	<p>Attendance : Eight full governing body meetings took place in 2019 – 2020.</p>	<p>All meetings have been quorate. An attendance record can be seen on the school website.</p>
	<p>Governor Skills and Knowledge : To develop and maintain our skills and knowledge in the areas necessary to discharge our duties, all members of the Governing Body have, and continue to have training, aiming to attend one training session per term.</p>	<p>A full list of Governor training can be viewed on request. All training is shared with the full Governing Body and questions asked to ensure that appropriate scrutiny is offered that holds the Head and school to account.</p> <p>Full Governing Body terms of reference have been reviewed and approved.</p>

	<p>Governors attend learning and monitoring visits at the school to deepen understanding and scrutinise areas of strength and development. Information is reviewed in the light of the local and national picture.</p>	<p>A Governor skills audit has revealed the need for a specialist in the field of estates management. We will appoint a Governor with this area of expertise.</p> <p>The following learning and monitoring visits have taken place (Please note that Governors have not be able to actually visit the school since April due to COVID precautions so meetings have been held remotely):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy • Maths • Health and Safety • Premises inspections • Preparation for SIAMS • Re-Opening Risk Assessment meeting following lock down • Developing an understanding of curriculum ‘deep dives’
	<p>Parent and pupil feedback</p>	<p>Governors reviewed the feedback provided by parents, carers and children in the questionnaires. Of particular interest was the feedback from parents of Year R pupils. This was followed up.</p>

As governors, we feel privileged to work on behalf of our school, which derives its continuing success from the hard work of staff, children and parents. We take our role as governors seriously and strive at all times to help ensure the educational start provided to the children of Farncombe CofE Infant School is the very best it can be. This has been a year that has been influenced by the impact of COVID 19 but the school and governing body have continued to act with rigour to ensure that developments continue.

HG

25/10/20