



Annual Report for Governing Body of
Woodlands Primary and Nursery School
2017-2018

We are delighted that following our Ofsted inspection, November 2017, the work of the governing body was judged to be good. We have continued to maintain and strengthen this standard of performance in our role, as we recognise effective governance is an integral part of supporting and challenging the leadership and management of Woodlands Primary and Nursery School. However, we recognise that there is a need to continue to recruit high quality individuals to further strengthen the governing body.

Governors are proud of the outcomes for children across each key stage and believe pupil results reflect the hard work of staff, to ensure children get the best start to their learning and continue to achieve their full potential as they transition through school. Governors are aware that teaching across the school is consistently good: internal progress data and testing shows that the large majority of children (for EYFS, KS1 & KS2) are on track to reach the expected standard for their year group in reading, writing and mathematics. Statutory test outcomes for EYFS and KS1 are in line with or above national averages, and Governors are committed to supporting and challenging senior leaders to ensure statutory test results at the end of KS2 continue to improve rapidly, so they are at least in line with national averages, particularly for mathematics and reading.

We have increased the number of Governing Body meetings for the Curriculum & Standards Committee to 6 per year. Attendance at governing body meetings last academic year ranged from 66% to 100%, ensuring that governors are fully conversant with all aspects of Woodlands Primary and Nursery School, including the wider life of the school within it's community. Link Governors meet regularly with members of the leadership team and others as required and report back to the full governing body. Reports are incorporated into the minutes of each meeting. The information from these reports helps to inform decisions that the governors make and also enables the wider governing body to evaluate how effective the work of school leaders is, in bringing about improvements. In addition, there are regular meetings between the Chair and the Headteacher, so that the chair is well informed of the on-going work of the school.

Early in the autumn term, the governors, along with the governing body, agree which governors will be involved in the appraisal of the Headteacher. They also agree on the appointment of an external advisor to assist in the process. This involves a vigorous appraisal of targets agreed in the previous autumn term and sets new targets for the coming academic year. These targets are important in the process of accountability, for they determine what has been achieved and help to determine the future strategy of the school. This committee can also make recommendations to the Governing Body on pay progression.

In addition, during the autumn term, the Governors' Personnel Committee reviews the salaries of all teaching staff based on the outcomes of appraisal targets and determines pay progression.

As part of our commitment to supporting our staff and governors, there is an ongoing programme of training throughout the academic year to meet the requirements of new legislation and to support individual professional development.

Addressing key issues is ensured through setting agendas agreed by the Chair and headteacher that provide Governors with key information and give ample opportunity for challenge and feedback.

This year Governors have considered and debated the following areas:

- Extensive analysis of all the 2017 and emerging 2018 results
- Assessment information and progress toward school improvement priorities
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- Finance and budget implications
- Attendance, behaviour and exclusions
- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Community involvement
- Strategic planning for Woodlands primary and Nursery School
- Staffing issues and recruitment
- Curriculum
- Approval of key policies
- Website compliance and the commissioning of a new website to improve communication with parents
- Ofsted preparation

Governors are always delighted to attend events and we see a good representation at our assemblies and events. They are also involved with the Pupil Voice and meeting children from across the school. Information gathered during these formal and informal visits is fed back to committee meetings.

The governing body subscribes to the Local Authority Governance support package.