



## Annual Statement of the Governing Body 2018-19 Deighton Gates Primary School

The major focus of the Governing Body is to ensure our pupils progress appropriately in their education by working with and holding the Senior Leadership team to account. For this to happen, pupils must be supported by a well led, enthusiastic, professionally competent and motivated staff all working together within a safe, supportive, stimulating environment. Governors appreciate too the requirements of our children's parents and carers and their need to be satisfied with the overall leadership and management of the school and how it affects the safeguarding, learning and enjoyment of their children.

To achieve these objectives, governors must continually evaluate the role played within the life of the school and publish relevant information to all interested parties. This statement is part of that evaluation process.

The Governing Body consists of the following members, including the Headteacher:

| Name                                   | Type of Governor     | Term of Office |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Mrs Claire Harrison                    | Head Teacher         | 2010- present  |
| Mr Simon Cavell – Chair                | Parent               | 2015-2019      |
| Mrs Jean Chapman                       | Co-opted             | 2018-2022      |
| Mrs Pam Callander                      | Parent               | 2019-2023      |
| Mr William Todd                        | Foundation           | 2015-2019      |
| Miss Helen Duffy – Deputy Head Teacher | Co-opted             | 2018-2022      |
| Mr Luke Dancer                         | Staff                | 2015-2019      |
| Mrs Sue Erwin                          | Co-opted             | 2017-2021      |
| Mrs Anna Adams                         | Parent               | 2017-2021      |
| Mrs Ann Richardson                     | Foundation           | 2018-2022      |
| Mr Robert Hart – Vice Chair            | Parent               | 2015-2019      |
| Mrs Kate Carroll                       | Foundation           | 2018-2022      |
| Mrs Laura Carter                       | Foundation (Pending) | 2019-2023      |

The Governing Body has three core strategic functions which are:

- **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**

Governors are responsible for setting the school's strategic framework, identifying priorities for school improvement and monitoring progress towards these goals. We are also responsible for setting a school ethos of high expectations of behaviour, progress and attainment of all pupils and of conduct of staff and governors.

- **Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff**

Governors must provide challenge to the school, holding the teachers and senior leaders to account for improving the quality of teaching and learning and school performance. We do this through questioning and regular monitoring and analysis of data on children's performance and progress. Governors hold the headteacher to account for the performance management of teachers. The Headteacher's performance management is conducted by Governors.

- **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent**

Governors look at financial statements and ask questions to ensure that the school makes efficient use of its budget and provides best value for money.

Each year the Governing Body considers:

- Standards of attainment and progress in all year groups and groups of children across the school
- Safeguarding pupils and staff
- Attendance
- Staffing
- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Regular review of the School Development Plan and School's Self Evaluation

During 2018-19, the Governors have in particular focused on:

- Improving progress in Maths
- Alleviating areas where higher teacher workloads could impact on teaching and learning
- Monitoring attainment and progress
- Further development of the Wharfe Valley Learning Partnership
- Recruiting and inducting new Governors
- Building up specific knowledge of key areas, including

The following areas are some of the ways in which the Governing Body have a positive impact on the strategic management of the school:

#### School Development Plan (SDP)

Governors work co-operatively with the Headteacher and Senior Management Team in the preparation for writing and the monitoring of the School Development Plan. The Plan sets aims for the school, based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and insight from Ofsted. Key tasks are completed in order to achieve these aims and success criteria is identified which will enable outcomes to be measured. The SDP is monitored and reviewed termly, with an evaluation overview being presented to governors.

#### Governor visits

Governors regularly visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SDP and of specific issues, such as Health and Safety or Safeguarding. Each Governor is developing a link with a particular cohort of children and will follow them through the school as they progress. Some governors have additional responsibilities such as SATs, Child Protection and SEN.

### Data analysis

Data is made available to governors through termly meetings with verbal and written presentations followed by question and answer sessions with the Headteacher and Senior Management Team. Governors are able to benchmark this data against similar schools, the Local Authority and national performance to ensure that Deighton Gates' standards and expectations are high and able to be closely scrutinised. This is supported by a School Improvement Partner from the Local Authority. Particular scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and on the effective use of pupil premium.

### Policies

Governors review all relevant policies to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date. Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department for Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list.

### Financial management

The impact of the governors' role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively and improvements are effective and continuous. The Governors bring a wide variety of expertise and perspectives, helping the school to manage finances appropriately.

### Governor Meeting Attendance

Governor attendance is monitored.

### Review

The Governing Body, the Headteacher and all members of staff work constantly to improve and develop the provision for children. The trend in outcomes at Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, early Years and Year 1 phonics continues to be strong. We know that the majority of pupils perform at or above national standard, with a number of high attainers exceeding age-related expectations. Attendance levels are good. Governors also know not to generalise about cohorts, so it is equally important that children with specific needs are being supported.

### Future plans for 2019-20

In line with the School Development Plan and the national agenda, the focus for the strategic development of the school involves the following areas of focus for Governors:

- Further raising standards for the more able in maths
- Developing the support for Governors through the Wharfe Valley Learning Partnership Governor Forum
- Development of the role of Governor for Pupil Premium
- Succession planning for the Governing Body and transition of new Governors into key positions
- Staff development, succession planning, well-being and review of workload
- Planning for staffing reductions due to financial constraints