



Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Barley Fields Primary School

In accordance with the Government's requirement for governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the Barley Fields Primary School Local Governing Body are:

1. 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. Governors 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.

2. Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;

Governors must provide challenge to the school and hold the Head Teacher and senior leaders to account for improving the quality of teaching and learning and school performance. Governors do this through questioning and through regular monitoring and analysis of data on children's performance and progress. Governors hold the Head Teacher to account for the performance management of teachers. The performance management of the Head Teacher is conducted by governors together with an external advisor.

3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it's 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.

Local Governance arrangements

The Governing Body was re-constituted under the 2012 School Governance Regulations in November 2016 with a revised governing body membership of 11 governors plus 2 associate governors.

The Local Governing Body now includes:

- 2 staff governors (including the Head Teacher)
- 3 elected Parent Governors
- 5 Co-opted Governors

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

The Local Governing Body meets once each term.

The Pay and Performance Committee meet annually and other committees meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.

Attendance record of governors

You can see the full list of governors, their terms of office and their attendance at meetings on the school website.

The governing body completes a skills audit to identify any further skills or training they needed to be able to deliver their functions effectively. They attend regular training updates as part of their role.

Each year, governor's sign a Code of Conduct which can be viewed on our website and the Governing Body have also published their Register of Business and Pecuniary Interests.

The majority of the work recently has involved:

- supporting the school in the transfer to the Price Regent Street Trust;
- supported the school with the preparation of the School Development Plan and School Self Evaluation;
- planning and supporting the redevelopment of the school leadership structure;
- reviewing and challenging school self-evaluation;
- monitoring progress against school development plan objectives;
- challenging school outcomes and setting aspirational targets for all children;
- monitoring "vulnerable groups" of children and challenging how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes;
- monitoring how the Sports Premium is been used to improve the quality of the PE curriculum by providing opportunities for pupils to participate in competitive sports and games as well as a wide range of enrichment PE activities;
- reviewing and monitoring the school budget. Overseeing the appropriate management of finances and monitoring that the school remains within an allocated budget;
- reviewing and agreeing bespoke school policies. A number of statutory policies are provided and approved by the Trust;
- involvement in monitoring and review meetings with the School Improvement Director.

An important role for governors is ensuring the safety and well-being of the children and we have a nominated Governor for Safeguarding – Glynis Pattison. She meets regularly with the Head Teacher and reports to the governors about any safeguarding matters/issues.

Safeguarding training governors is a statutory aspect of their role. All governors have completed this and the Safeguarding governor has completed elevated training.

The minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents and you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.

Future plans for the governors

- The governing body will continue to support the Head Teacher and senior leaders in the efficient running of the school whilst continuing to strategically develop the excellent standard of education in the current challenging and changing environment.
- Governors will closely monitor the financial viability of the school in the context of tightening school budgets.
- Governors will continue to establish systems and styles of working through which the governing body can work most effectively in fulfilling their roles.
- Governors will look to increase their communication with parents and the community through attendance at parent's meetings and school events.

How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. You can contact Glynis Pattison, Chair of Governors via the school office.