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Bispham Drive
Junior School
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BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

GOVERNING BODY IMPACT STATEMENT JANUARY 2022

The Governing Body Role

Our role as a Governing Body plays a key part in the leadership of Bispham Drive Junior School and seeks to ensure that the school provides the best learning experiences for your child, enabling them to reach the best of their capabilities. This Impact Statement seeks to provide information on our role and the impact we have on the school's improvements. The membership of the Governing Body are all dedicated volunteers investing considerable hard work, time, and goodwill in ensuring the best of outcomes for all our children. We have an energetic, progressive, and skilled group focusing on supporting the Headteacher and all her staff to shape the strategic direction of our school.

The government holds the Governing Body to account for the performance of our school through 3 core strategic functions:

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

We have 9 members of the Governing Body and welcomed 2 new governors, a parent governor and a Co-opted governor, to our Governing Body during Autumn 2021. Details of all members of the Governing Body can be found on the school's website.

The Governing Body meets formally 6 times per year however all our governors participate in activities to support the school and to ensure that we are effective in delivering our key core functions. Each Governing Body member takes on specific roles within the Governing Body and reports back to full Governing Body meetings on a regular basis. We have a termly Financial and Business meeting and a Standards meeting (covering Data, Special Educational Need and Disability, Safeguarding). Additionally, governors undertake monitoring visits to review work towards our School Improvement Plan, meet with school leaders, visit the school to review systems and procedures and attend school events where we can meet pupils and carers/parents.

The governors, through these activities, ensure that they understand and gain knowledge of the areas of strength and weakness of the school. The Governing Body brings together its scrutiny of the school and information from around the country to try and get a full picture of how the school is doing. This enables us to share with the school our findings and to shape the Vision and School Improvement Plan.

Vision for the School

The Governing Body has worked closely with the school to develop our vision and to embed the ethos of the school through the DRIVE curriculum.

21ST Century Learning for the 21ST Century Child

At Bispham Drive Junior School we recognise that children are growing in an ever changing world that presents both new opportunities and new challenges.

School Improvement Plan

The SIP (School Improvement Plan) is a key document for delivering our vision and strategy and is integral to our ability to hold our leadership to account. It is a dynamic document and is used throughout the year to undertake our termly reviews as Link Governors. Crucially it enables the school to focus its resources in those key areas effectively.

Developing the current years SIP 2021/2022

The development of the SIP is very much a joint effort between the school leadership and the Governing Body and we work closely to ensure that the SIP meets the needs of all our children.

Governors were involved in the summer term in reviewing and agreeing the key focus areas of which 5 were identified.

1. To use the English action plan to ensure attainment exceeds national expectations at the end of year 6 and a baseline of at least 65% across the school
2. To ensure that teaching and learning in the 2021/2022 academic year compensates for areas of the maths and wider curriculum not fully covered due to lockdown
3. To develop the role of middle leaders to ensure they have a positive impact on the teaching and learning of their subjects across the school
4. To embed the values of the DRIVE curriculum across the school and for all stakeholders
5. To ensure that leadership and management across the school promotes the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff

The Data Link Governor worked closely with the SLT to identify those areas based on objective evidence. A key element of this was the results of assessments following the disruption to the school following months of Covid restrictions.

During the summer the Governor Team involved in the SIP were able to work closely with Mrs Goetzee and her team to interpret those 5 key areas into coherent targets across the school to ensure that targeted measures were identified.

The SIP was presented to the FGB in September 2021 and agreed. As a dynamic document the group has met again and further reviewed refinements. Within the SIP Link Governors monitoring role is identified and is key for the FGB to ensure that we can hold the school's leadership to account.

Link Governors Reviews

To review our pupils' progress the Governing Body appointed 'Link Governors' whose role is to work with school leaders and these were agreed at the September 2021 meeting. This structure enables the FGB to provide the interconnection between the school and the governing body. Link governors develop a rapport with the relevant leaders within the school which enables them to both challenge and support. This is important for maximum progress to be achieved in all curriculum areas, interventions, children in receipt of pupil premium, the outcomes of the sports premium and safeguarding including personal development, behaviour and welfare, attendance, e-safety and 'prevent' strategy.

Termly reviews are undertaken jointly with the school leaders which enable Link Governors to provide a comprehensive report to the Governing Body. The structure of the reviews has been developed over several years and to accommodate Covid restrictions the governors had reviewed and strengthened our methodology for reviewing. This follows an agreed format

- A set of questions for each of the termly reviews is developed by governors based on the SIP and reflects the key focus areas. For English and Maths additional reviews of data from termly assessments have been included.
- The questions are provided to school leaders and enables them to review their areas and to provide feedback against the strategic targets. A follow up meeting between a Link Governor and the Subject Lead provides for additional information and challenges to be undertaken.
- A report is prepared by the Governor to present to the Full Governing Body at the next Standards Meeting.

Data Analysis

The Link Governor for data works closely with the school to ensure that internal assessments are analysed, and a report is prepared termly and feeds into the Link Governors reviews. We continue to review our data and use this to compare against National and Local trends.

For 2020-21 the governors reviewed the school's strategy for dealing with the 'Catch Up' following the Covid-19 school closures and the impact of class bubble closures and children isolating. This is continuing during 2021-22 and we are ascertaining the impact of remote learning for our pupils and their families.

Funding the Strategic Improvement Plan

We have a named Governor who provides a link between the Headteacher and School Business Manager to continuously review the financial strategy for the school. This ensures that spending meets the needs of delivering, effectively and efficiently. The Governing

Body reviews all expenditure in line with the Finance Policy and agrees the budgets on an on-going basis.

This is monitored throughout the year through a monthly analysis which is shared with all governors. The chair of governors and financial link governor work with the SLT and School Business Manager to review monthly.

The Special Education Need and Disability (SEND) Link Governor works closely with the leadership to ensure that Pupil Premium and Sports Funding is allocated effectively. A termly review is undertaken to ensure that delivery is meeting forecasts.

Governor's school visits

Developing a successful relationship with the school that enables governors to both support and challenge effectively has been key to our Governing Body's strategy.

- The Chair of governor meets with the Headteacher bi-monthly. Before each meeting they undertake a school walkthrough. A report of the meeting is shared with all governors if required.
- Governors have spoken with Subject Leads regularly, however this year because of Covid, we have had meetings via Video where possible.
- Governors are encouraged to visit the school and to become familiar with the school, staff, and pupils. For example, visits, events, assemblies.
- Governors are also invited to attend open days, school sports events etc where we can meet parents and carers'.

Safeguarding

We have a link governor responsible for reviewing safeguarding within the school. He works closely with the head and reports at each of the Governing Body meetings.

Policies

The governors review and adopt all relevant policies at the Full Governing Body meetings. These policies can be found on the school's website.

Training

The governing body agreed last academic year to buy into the Nottinghamshire County Council governor training. New Governors are expected to attend Local Authority training for new governors. We encourage all governors to access training regularly and to share new ideas and information.

Conclusion

The Governing Body has continued to work energetically throughout the last year to ensure that we can support the school during what has been unprecedented times. We are appreciative of the hard work and dedication shown by the Headteacher, Mrs Goetzee and all the staff to ensure our children have the very best chances in life. We are also proud of our parents who have often faced a difficult balancing act of work and home schooling to ensure our children are safe and happy in their learning.

Details of the current membership can be found on Bispham Drive Junior School website.