

Ninelands Primary School – Governing Body Effectiveness

Throughout 2016/17 the Governing Body of Ninelands Primary School have been pleased with the progress made across the school in continuing to improve outcomes for children. The Governing Body have worked closely with the head teacher, senior leadership team and staff to ensure the Governing Body maintain a good understanding of the school and are able to offer appropriate support and challenge. This has helped to secure further improvements across the school. The Governing Body delegates some of its work to a number of subcommittees which provides greater opportunity to go into further depth within their respective areas. These subcommittee are made up of governors and senior school staff, are responsible to the Governing Body and report to the full Governing Body at each meeting. More detail about their work follows.

Resources Committee - Governor Effectiveness 2016/17

During this academic year the Resources Committee have been involved with the following areas:

1) School Policies

The committee have ratified numerous School Policies in line with statutory guidance:

- Charging and Remissions
- Leave of Absence
- Health and Safety
- Data Protection
- Freedom of information

The Pay Policy was deferred to full governing body where it was agreed.

2) Monitoring Visits

Governors with responsibilities for Health and Safety, Pupil Premium, and PE Grant Funding have held meeting with the appropriate members of staff and reported back to the committee. All spend has been found to be appropriate and no significant areas of concern reported.

Governors responsible for the pay and appraisals met with the Head Teacher and reviewed all the appropriate documentation to ensure and confirm that fair and robust process was followed.

3) Finance & SVFS

Governors set out the strategic aim that the budgets going forward the should be wherever possible balanced and any surplus or deficit should be presented as a series of options for consideration. During the year the school met this objective and the members of the Resources Committee were heavily involved in reviewing and robustly challenging the school budget which before full sign off by the full governing body.

Governors responsible for the SFVS reviewed all the supporting evidence to ensure that the self-assessment was a true and fair reflection.

4) Regular agenda items

At each Resources Committee meeting, the School Business Manager and the Head Teacher provided information and papers that facilitated full discussions in the committee meetings. Information is detailed in the minutes on the following:

- Accident Analysis
- Attendance Data
- Best Value Updates
- Monthly spend v Budget Analysis
- PE Grant Spend
- Premises Update
- Pupil Premium Spend
- Staffing and Recruitment

Teaching and Learning - Governor Effectiveness 2016/17

During this academic year the Teaching and Learning Committee have been involved with the following areas:

1) School Policies

The committee have ratified numerous School Policies in line with statutory guidance on:

Appraisal Policy
NQT Policy
Assessment Policy

2) Monitoring Visits

Governors have carried out monitoring visits linked to key areas for improvement.

EYFS Monitoring visit - to observe impact of and evaluate the EYFS action plan. Increased focus on writing and numeracy in play based activities were observed and the impact of specialised support group -Writing warriors was apparent.

Age expected 2017 EYFS 80% up from 66% last year.

Boys Writing – Clear evidence of the implementation of key actions to develop writing skills for all children, in particular boys, as per the school improvement plan. Increase in interest areas and opportunities for developing writing skills through EYFS, KS1 and KS2 has been developed, particularly targeting the boys. After discussions with pupils they were clearly enthused about the topics they are now writing about and have developed ways to review and improve their own work independently.

Impact improved writing results writing score KS2 gone from significantly below national 58% in 2016 to just above in 2017 77%. At KS1 combined 48% became 63%.

Book sampling – Clear evidence of progress over time observed through literacy and numeracy book sampling. Governors investigated the procedures used to monitor the quality of teaching and learning through work scrutiny. Data currently indicates that progress in Maths +0.86

SATS monitoring – Governors observed the administration of the SATS exams. Monitoring processes used, to ensure integrity of the tests.

3) Data monitoring

Governors regularly review targets and progress towards those targets across all Key stages. Governors attended training on the Raise online report and interrogated the data extensively in order to inform next steps.

Governors suggested the school to set even more aspirational targets as well as minimum expected targets where appropriate. Aspirational targets are set as a matter of course.

Progress data suggests the school has surpassed the coasting threshold for 2017 results.

4) Consultation with Parents

Governor Surgeries – held during the Parents Evenings and Parent Picnic had a positive response from parents, who noted it was nice to meet the governors.

Pupil Support - Governor Effectiveness 2016/17

During this academic year the Pupil Support Committee have been involved with the following areas:

1) School Policies

The committee have ratified numerous School Policies in line with statutory guidance on:

Admissions Policy	Sex and Relationships Education Policy,
Behaviour Policy	Medicines Policy (including Medical Care Plans),
Child Protection Policy	Home/School Agreement
Special Needs Policy	Packed Lunch Guidance.

2) Monitoring Visits

Governors with responsibilities for Child Protection/Safeguarding, Attendance and SEN have held monitoring visits with the school representative responsible for each area.

Child Protection/Safeguarding – Governor attended the Safeguarding Audit in April. The safeguarding process is very robust and it was clear that staff knew procedures well. The audit highlighted the good procedures already in place

and also identified a couple of areas which are already being addressed. (Volunteers – application, interview and references).

Attendance – The overall attendance for school in the Autumn Term was good at 96.9%. This is higher than the national and Leeds average. Recurrently late pupils are being supported by school and external agencies to increase their attendance.

SEN – There are 54 pupils on the SEN register, 47 are Pupil Premium. The types of need are varied and the number of children with more than one need is higher in KS2. Overall attendance of SEN pupils is good at 96%. SEN pupils have access to the national curriculum through quality first teaching with their class teacher, with interventions at the end of the structured class session. Pupil progress is measured through B Squared, enabling smaller manageable progress steps. Extensive training is being shared in-house to update/upskill all staff. Reviews with parents/carers are happening on a regular basis.

Boys Writing – Clear evidence of the implementation of key actions to develop writing skills for all children, in particular boys, as per the school improvement plan. Increase in interest areas and opportunities for developing writing skills through EYFS, KS1 and KS2 has been developed, particularly targeting the boys. After discussions with pupils they were clearly enthused about the topics they are now writing about and have developed ways to review and improve their own work independently.

3) Consultation with Parents

Governor Surgeries – held during the Parents Evenings and Parent Picnic had a positive response from parents, who noted it was nice to meet the governors.

Questionnaire – Parent Satisfaction Survey completed during the Autumn Parents Evenings showed a significant improvement in all areas since the last questionnaire in 2012. For example 99.6% felt their child was happy at school, 98% felt their child made good progress and 99.6% would recommend the school to another parent.