

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE GOVERNING BODY OF MOBBERLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL 2015/16

The Governing Body of Mobberley C of E Primary School was reconstituted in 2015 and consists of two Parent Governors, one Local Authority Governor, one Staff Governor, the Head Teacher, two Foundation Governors and three Co-opted Governors (Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who in its opinion have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school).

The two Foundation Governors are Father Ian, the Rector of St. Wilfrid's Church and Mrs Julie Eadie. Father Ian leads weekly collective worship in School as well as supporting classes in their religious studies. Nativity services take place in St. Wilfrid's as do beginning and end of term services. Our children love going to the Church. Mrs Eadie, who is both a Foundation Governor and Teaching Assistant helps to prepare children for services and leads hymn practice on Mondays with the Head Teacher. Christian values are intrinsic to the work of the School and are fully endorsed by the Governing Body.

The full Governing Body meets twice a term and the Buildings, Personnel, Finance and Curriculum sub-committees meet termly to consider different aspects of the school life in detail. There are also committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.

Work Done in 2015-6

As always, meeting high standards is a priority for the Governing Body. Having had Liam Trippier as our School Improvement Partner for three years it was felt a change was required to ensure that the School retained its outstanding status. We were delighted to welcome Andree Coleman as our new School Improvement Partner in November 2015.

The Curriculum sub-committee oversaw the introduction of the Cornerstones Creative Curriculum, running termly Imaginative Learning Projects in each class. All members of staff were trained in TEEP (Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme) which promotes enquiry-based learning and supports the Cornerstones Curriculum. Training also took place in the Maths Makes Sense methodology to enhance mathematics teaching skills for all staff members. These approaches to learning give us the opportunity to support our vulnerable groups as well as allowing the more able children to challenge themselves. We use additional funding to support individuals by employing adults to work one-to-one or with small groups of children. Pupils also support each other in co-operative learning groups.

The Curriculum sub-committee is monitoring the progress of Humanities which is this year's area of focus. Enrichment days themed around British Values were carried out through the medium of creative arts in April 2016. A link-subject governor spoke to pupils after the event to sample their enjoyment of the two days and the knowledge they had gained.

In 2014-5 Physical Education was the focus subject area and the sub-committee continues to monitor progress with the full Governing Body receiving termly updates on expenditure from the sports grant.

We are pleased to report that the School remains in a very healthy position financially, overseen by the Finance sub-committee. This has allowed the recruitment of an additional teacher for five mornings per week so that juniors can be taught in single-age classes. Careful management of the budget means that this can continue for a further academic year as pupil numbers grow.

We have three Teaching Assistants who support classes (reviewed termly), as well as a number of Teaching Assistants who operate on a one-to-one basis funded by the School and the Local Authority. Funding was set aside to provide Alpha Touch Screens which have replaced the interactive white boards in all classes.

Last year we appointed Mr Street as a caretaker for the new infants' site. He, along with Mr Callaghan, our site manager ensures that the buildings are maintained in a good condition.

The Buildings sub-committee carries out a termly check of the premises in order to identify any areas requiring expenditure or improvement so that funds can be set aside. As a result, and influenced by the acquisition of additional land and perimeter responsibilities, an annual professional tree survey is now carried out and any necessary work authorised. Our annual Health & Safety report for a second year had no significant areas to address.

Ongoing redecoration of the School has included refurbishment of the Staff Room, and replacement of the taps in both boys and girls toilet areas. A CCTV system has been installed to support safeguarding responsibilities, along with additional perimeter gates which are locked throughout the day.

The Personnel sub-committee monitors the performance management of all staff including the Head Teacher, ensuring that ambitious targets are met and set for the next academic year. It also supports the Head Teacher in the recruitment of staff. Members of the Governing Body have undergone training in safer recruitment.

The Governing Body no longer authorises school holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. We recognise the problems this may cause parents but are pleased that attendance figures remain above 96%.

Working with the £16,000 funding raised by the Parent Teacher Association, the Early Years Foundation Stage outdoor classroom has been refurbished with landscaping and new equipment.

Future Plans

The School community is looking forward to rebranding our Statement of Purpose (Be the Best We Can) better to reflect the School's Christian ethos. A challenge day has been arranged at which the whole school, including the governors, will develop the theme through a 'Day in Politics' leading to a vote. Staff and pupil 'Ethos' teams has been established in school to plan and lead this work.