

## **Alfreton Park Community Special School**

### **Governors Annual Statement – Impact Report 2019/20**

*“The Governors now offer more support and challenge to school leaders”* (Ofsted November 2016).

#### **Core Functions of the Governing Board**

Our aim as Governors is to ensure that all pupils are achieving their full potential through access to our school curriculum whilst valuing and respecting cultural diversity, gender, additional need and disability.

This statement is part of the Governors evaluation process.

#### **Governor Priorities**

- 1) To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by strengthening leadership skills of all stakeholders.
- 2) To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by improving quality of teaching, learning and assessment.
- 3) To secure the best outcomes for pupils by focussing on personal development, behaviour and welfare.
- 4) To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by developing adequate premises, resources and financial performance of the school.
- 5) Holding the Head Teacher to account whilst setting the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.

#### **Governor Attendance**

During 2017/18 the Governing Board operated with 2 committees

- 1) Resource Management Committee – The aim of which is to monitor each years School Improvement Plan and make clear links to the annual budget plan, whilst adhering to all school finance regulations, procedures and ensure the budget is managed effectively.
- 2) Performance Management/ Pay Committee – The aim of which is to review the staffing structure annually in relation to the school’s needs and to hold the Head Teacher to account.

The Teaching and Learning Committee has been currently disbanded as this area is currently undergoing major change within the school. It is thought therefore that this topic is discussed at FGB only to ensure that all Governors are informed and have the possibility of questioning in detail these changes and their subsequent impact. The committee may be re-established at a later date.

Attendance to all committees and full Governing meetings has proven to be outstanding as in accordance with previous years. There are no causes of concern at the level of commitment shown by any members. Governors have continued to visit other schools, local groups, federation and national meetings in order to share good practice.

Governors have continued to visit school on a regular basis, taking part in activities with pupils, attending training with staff and whole school events. Each class benefits from having a Governor Buddy and named Governors are linked to a curriculum aspect which they will oversee.

The impact of these visits includes;

- A thorough understanding of the school and how it performs
- A renewed focus on the strength and weakness of the school
- A much improved dialogue with children/staff/parents and carers
- A Sharing of information at Governors' meetings and actions required

### **School Development Plan**

Governors work co-operating with the Head Teacher and the SLT in writing and monitoring of the SDP. The current SDP is based on the school evaluation and Ofsted priorities. Governors can now access the SDP remotely and have undergone training on how to improve and focus it to achieving the aims set out.

Governors visit school as part of their monitoring of the SDP each term where data is made available to them in order for them to question and seek validation of the results.

Governors review all relevant policies on a timetable basis to ensure that all information is current, specific attention is paid to ensure school complies with the Department of Education's policy list and that of the Local Authority.

### **Governor Training and Development Plan**

The school continues to buy into the Derby and Derbyshire Governance Partnership who provide training workshops. Governors have continued their high level of commitment and regularly attend training which is discussed and agreed each term.

### **Impact Summary**

This year has seen a strengthened Governing Board who strive to continue to ask questions and challenge the Headteacher. They have a greater role within school and have been more of a physical presence allowing better understanding of how Governors impact upon the running of school.



Community Special School

In 2017/2018 a new school building was approved by Derbyshire County Council. The Governors continue to work the LA and SLT to plan for this.

### **Future and Continuous Improvement**

The Governing Board and SLT are committed to improving school in order to gain and Ofsted “Outstanding judgement and ensure it continues to uphold our ethos of *“Learning Together for Personal Success”*”.

Ongoing and future areas of improvement are:

- A new website
- To continue to raise and maintain pupil standards
- To shape plans for the new proposed school
- To improve the visibility of Governors within school.