

GALLEYWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT OF GOVERNORS 2018-2019

This document gives an overview of the work and activity undertaken by the Full Governing Body (FGB) during the academic year 2018-2019.

Membership and Meetings

The FGB is a group of volunteers from the local community who have an interest in education. The FGB has the following membership –

The Headteacher

1 Governor appointed through Essex County Council

1 Staff Governor elected by the whole staff team

2 Parent Governors elected by parents and carers of children attending the school (1 vacancy)

5 co-opted Governors

In addition, there are 3 Associate Governors who are not full members of the FGB. They have been invited to join the Governing Body as they have particular skills to offer and are able to advise the Governors. They have no voting rights.

The FGB has met on 4 different occasions. In addition there are 4 main committees which focus on different aspects of school life; Learning and Ethos, Resources, Pay, Personnel and Performance and Data.

The main committees have met once a term and Governors are a member of at least one. Other committees meet as required. Currently, minutes are available in the school office for parents and carers to view.

School Development

Galleywood Infants was judged by Ofsted to be an 'outstanding' school and staff, children, parents and Governors are very proud of this achievement. However it is important that the school looks to the future and continues to improve. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is the document setting out how the school strives to improve. This document covers every aspect of school life, especially how the children will be taught. The FGB has approved the plan and monitored progress.

Monitoring Visits

During the year there was a programme of Governor visits which focused on aspects of the SIP. Governors spent time in the classrooms, talked with staff and more importantly with the children. Governors discussed their findings with the Headteacher and wrote reports which were presented and discussed at governor meetings. The focus for some visits was writing. It has been a privilege to see the progress the children make from the Foundation Stage to the end of Year 2. Other visits focused on Special Educational Needs, Health and Safety and Safeguarding.

Headteacher's Performance

The FGB sets the objectives and monitors the performance of the Headteacher. Governors take advice from an independent advisor. An end of year review is scheduled to take place before the end of this academic year.

Resources

The FGB is responsible for ensuring that the school's finances are robustly monitored. The school budget was set by the FGB at the beginning of the financial year. The school is publicly funded and Governors have a responsibility to check that funds are being spent appropriately. It is vital that the school is able to provide the highest quality of education within the constraints of the budget. This is quite a challenge. Therefore, as a FGB we look to future financial projections. A 5 year financial projection was prepared which is continually monitored to see if any savings can be made in order to meet future commitments.

Safeguarding (including Health and Safety)

Every child has the right to feel and be safe. Their wellbeing is of paramount importance. The FGB received regular reports throughout the year with regard to safeguarding issues. It has ensured that the safeguarding guidelines from The Essex Safeguarding Board are strictly adhered to. The nominated governor with responsibility for safeguarding meets at least termly with the Headteacher to discuss the arrangements and to be kept up to date. In addition Governors received the latest safeguarding training.

Health and Safety is a part of safeguarding. The nominated governor with responsibility for Health and Safety meets regularly with the site manager to inspect the buildings and equipment. The FGB continue to be concerned about parking. The school plan to launch a new initiative in the Autumn about this issue.

Looking to the Future

The world of education has changed considerably over the past few years. Budget constraints, academy status and academy trusts are just a few of those changes. Governors have attended conferences and training sessions to keep up to date. At the beginning of the Autumn term 2019, Governors and staff will discuss together the aims and vision of our outstanding school.

Contact

Governors generally work 'behind the scenes' supporting the work of the school. However, should there be any aspect of school life you would like to discuss the Chair of Governors can be contacted via email j.gould@galleywood.essex.sch.uk or letter. Please mark the letter for the attention of the Chair of Governors and leave at the school office.

