

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Collis Primary School September 2021 to July 2022

In accordance with Government requirements for all governing bodies, the governing board of Collis has four core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.
- Ensuring the school remains compliant with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Governance Arrangements

- For this school year the governing board consisted of:
 - 9 Co-opted Governors
 - The Head Teacher
 - 1 LA Governor
 - 2 Elected Parent Governors
 - 1 Staff Governor
 - 2 Associate Governors
- During the year we welcomed four new governors onto the board to succeed those who had stepped down after many years of service with Collis for which we thank them.
- We are currently seeking a successor for the role of Chair of Governors and Chair of the Curriculum Committee.
- When recruiting we aim to ensure the diversity of our board is representative of the local community.
- As governors we have different roles and attend training sessions provided by AfC and other governance organisations to ensure that we are able to meet regulatory requirements and are well informed and kept up to date with current requirements in order to support the Head Teacher and staff.
- The school has adeptly 'normalised' the management of the ongoing issues of the pandemic into their daily operational procedures. Consequently, this together with the completion of the build project and effective resolutions of the residual snagging items has enabled governors to return to our normal timetable of meetings and activities with very few requirements to hold exceptional meetings. One outcome from the impact of the pandemic we will continue is holding committee meetings, if appropriate, on line as these benefit both staff and governors' work-life balance.
- The full Governing Board meets in person four times a year.

Curriculum Committee – monitors the effectiveness of the implementation of the curriculum, assessments and performance data, behaviour and pupil welfare. Safeguarding is of paramount importance to all committees and this is included in their monitoring activities and decisions.

We also have a Safeguarding and Pupil Welfare group that reports into the Curriculum committee and dedicated Safeguarding governors who meet with school leaders every term.

Resources Committee – monitors the financial management of the school and agrees school budgets. Oversees the management of school premises and grounds and health & safety. Staff performance management, professional development and senior post recruitment also fall into their remit.

- The main committees meet twice each term and the working groups will normally meet once a term.
- Other governor panels are organised when the need arises

Governing Body impact during this year

FGB

- The board has continued to support the SLT in managing the ongoing impact of Covid particularly during the Spring term when high numbers of absences were occurring in both staff and pupils to ensure that the school was able to maintain operations effectively.
- The board maintains oversight of the work of committees and groups and is responsible for any final decisions or approvals.
- The board reviews the outcomes from external assessments on school performance such as termly reports from the LA School Improvement Partner and factor these into ongoing work plans.
- Policies have been reviewed and approved as per an established timetable to ensure that the school remains compliant with all statutory and LA regulations.
- Monitoring by governors is constantly reviewed to ensure it remains focused on the achievement of school priorities and the key objectives of the School Development plan.
- The termly HT report is thoroughly reviewed, areas of success are investigated to identify key levers and any areas of concern challenged.
- The board has developed a risk register to identify exceptional circumstances that could adversely affect the school and plans to mitigate impact.
- Every term a governor event is held that enables all governors to spend time with their year groups and speak with staff and children and to meet with members of the parent Focus group. All governors regularly report that the standards of behaviour remain high and the children report that they feel safe and enjoy coming into school.

Resources Committee:

- Worked with the SLT to return the school to a positive financial position and achieve a balanced budget for the next 3 years.
- Monitors the school's ability to attract and retain talented staff.
- Monitored charging and remissions for all school amenities.
- Closely monitored Pupil Premium, Covid catch-up, SEN and sports premium funding to ensure they are used to best effect for the children.
- Reviewed the applications of funds raised by the CSA.
- The breadth and success of events run by the Collis School Association are invaluable in enhancing the facilities and learning environment the children can enjoy. The energy and creativity of the

Co-chairs and committee have achieved remarkable results this year which the board greatly values and admires.

- Parent Fund
- Premises/Swimming Pool
- Investigates staff turnover and staff survey results and works with the SLT to ensure there is a continuing focus on implementing working practices that support staff wellbeing. The school continues to have high levels of staff stability.

Curriculum Committee has:

- Supported the school's overhaul of the curriculum.
- Monitored Quality of Teaching
- Agreed and monitored annual targets for pupil progress and attainment.
- Closely monitored policies and practices to ensure the needs of all pupils are met and effectively implemented for all vulnerable groups.
- Regularly reviewed all aspects of Pupil Welfare.
- Safeguarding – whilst safeguarding is a matter that all governors monitor as part of their work the committee has specific responsibilities to undertake close reviews of pupil safeguarding and welfare.
- Participated and monitored Parent Focus Group outputs.

Attendance record of Governors

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings. A full record of governor attendance is on the Governor page of the school website.

Contacting the Governing Board

Governors have a strategic role and we always welcome feedback, suggestions or ideas that can inform the potential future direction and development of our school, this can be done via the school office. Queries or concerns regarding school operating matters should be referred to the HT in the first instance.