

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Southrop C of E Primary School
October 2023**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the four core strategic functions of the Southrop C of E Primary School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. Holding the co-headteachers to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
4. Ensuring the voices of stakeholders are heard.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Southrop C of E Primary School instrument of governance states that our Board is made up of 9 Governors in total:

- 2 x elected Parent Governors
- 1 x Local Authority
- 1 x elected Staff Governor
- 1 x Head Teacher
- 2 x Foundation Governors
- 2 x Co-opted Governors

The Full Governing Body meets at least 6 times each year. If Governors are unable to attend a meeting they are required to give their apologies with reasons and the Governing Body decides whether or not to accept these apologies.

The Governing Body elects its own Chair and Vice Chair.

We have three standing committees; The Ethos Committee, Finance Committee and Pay Committee. There are also several panels which form and meet on an as needed basis: Head Teachers' Performance, Pay Appeal; Staff Dismissal, Staff Dismissal Appeal; Pupil Exclusion Appeal.

The work that we have done in the last year (academic year 21/22).

Activity during the preceeding 12 months has included:

- Replacement of the Chair and vice chair
- New Chair training for chair and vice chair
- Attendance by Chair and Vice Chair of local chair meetings which have recently been reinstated. This led to understanding of role of School Improvement advisors and services such as GLOSSI and external options.
- In response to agreement by the FGB and Co-Heads that additional support for school support was needed agreed to appoint external School Improvement Advisor. Also re-instated relationship with GLOSSI (GCCs school improvement service) to ensure locally relevant support.
- Review by New Chair of key documentation for Governing Board.

	• Production and agreement by FGB of: Standing Orders, Terms of Reference for Committees, Scheme of Delegation, Revised Annual Planner for Governors with Governor visits linked to School Development Plan, Risk Register. • Established a Wellbeing Governor to monitor wellbeing of staff and pupils. • In response to risk of low pupil numbers at the school investigated options for external marketing support and obtained quotations. Approved appointment of marketing consultant and spend to enable marketing strategy development, website redesign, production of new marketing materials, assistance with social media marketing and physical marketing. • Commenced a Visioning exercise including, along with the Co-Heads, information gathering from stakeholders including pupils, parents and carers, staff, Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Governors and arranging and participating in a GCC visioning workshop for Southrop C of E Primary Governors to review this information. • Undertook training in OFSTED inspections and safeguarding. • Supported the School ethos through Governor attendance at school events including Church services and morning worship, leavers lunch and nativity play. • Worked with the Head Teacher on the School Development Plan. We have continued to support and monitor the school's efforts to ensure that all pupils receive high quality education and that they achieve to the best of their ability in line with the school vision. We have done this through: - Critical questioning and examination of progress data. - One-to-one meetings with year group leads and their appointed Governor to review progress data termly. - Learning walks by Governor's and meetings with subject leads to review subject action plans, as well as for SEND and Wellbeing and providing feedback. In the 2022/2023 year the Governing Board had unfilled vacancies for Local Authority Governor and a co-opted Governor. The Clerk also stepped down in August 2023. A new Clerk was appointed in September 2023.
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Future Plans	We will continue to support and monitor the school's efforts to ensure that all pupils receive high quality education and that they achieve to the best of their ability. Our monitoring will focus on scrutiny of data for different pupil groups including those of SEND students and free school meals to ensure that all students are able to participate fully, and encouraged to strive to be the best they can be in line with the school vision and achieve their potential. We will continue the visioning exercise to its conclusion and draw up and monitor a revised School Development Plan We will seek to develop and improve the skills of the Governing Body collectively, and individually, through training.
Contact	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents - please contact the Chair of Governors (chair@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk), or one of the other Governors using their details as shown in "Governors Details".