

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body
of White Notley C of E Primary School
September 2020**

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the White Notley Primary School Governing Body are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
- 2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body of White Notley C of E Primary School was re-constituted in January 2018, is made up of 2 staff Governors (including the Headteacher), 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 2 foundation Governors and 5 Co-opted Governors. Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school:

The full Governing Body meetings take place once each term, and we have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At White Notley C of E Primary we have 3 committees which also meet termly:

Finance and Personnel Committee, which deals with the financial running of the school. They ensure that decisions about how the school should use the budget are wise and sustainable.

Premises, Health and Safety for compliance with changes in legislation. They look at the maintenance and development of the school premises. They carry out termly checks of the premises.

Curriculum and Standards committee support the welfare of pupils and staff and ensure that school improvement data given by staff continues to be positive.

Each governor is responsible for individual areas of the curriculum and until Covid-19 made regular monitoring visits to the school to discuss with staff and pupils and to ensure that policies were not just read but acted upon.

Attendance record of Governors

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings (There is a specific number of Governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See website for details of individual

	Governors' attendance at meetings
<p>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</p>	<p>Due to the Covid-19 restrictions the school was closed for several months apart from for children of Key workers. The Governors met online and were amazed by the quality and quantity of work done by staff and parents during this very difficult time. We approved a Summer school run by staff who were all very keen to provide an excellent transition back to school in September. Due to the restrictions Governor visits to the school were curtailed and we are keen to continue with the foci that were started.</p> <p>The Governors have had a focus on effective monitoring this year, looking at foundation subjects as well as core subjects, ensuring the curriculum is broad, balanced plus engaging. A lot of time and consideration has been given to the future of the school ensuring we have taken steps for sustainability including staffing, funding and school partnerships. Work will continue on this this academic year, with discussions taking place with other small schools.</p> <p>Our other focus this year was the delivery of Mathematics across the school. We continue to work closely with the new Maths co-ordinator to ensure pace, challenge and effectively pitched teaching.</p> <p>Pupil Premium Grant children continue to be a focus, ensuring that they reach their potential and monitoring the impact the grant has on pupils.</p> <p>Governors are also particularly concerned about safeguarding and we have a Nominated Governor for Safeguarding (Mr M Ager) who gives a termly report to the Governors about any safeguarding matters. We have at present 3 EHCP pupils who are reviewed by our SENCO (special educational needs co-ordinator Mrs L Dickinson). We also have a governor responsible for SEND who regularly discusses issues with Mrs Dickinson.</p> <p>Data this year is not available due to the closure of the school since March. New baselines are being set by staff currently but we are fully aware as Governors that progress measures will be the ones to monitor this year rather than attainment due to such long-term disruption to children's learning.</p> <p>One of the roles for the Governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies. Governors approve policies at each Full Governors</p>

	<p>meeting and more usually committee meetings. Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<p>Future plans for the Governors</p>	<p>The priorities set last year continue.</p> <p>Our priority to ensure robust and effective monitoring from Governors is to continue.</p> <p>Pupil progress will be closely monitored with regular updates at Full Governing Body meetings.</p> <p>We will be looking at governor links with areas of the curriculum and how assessment in these subjects impacts progress for our pupils. We are keen to provide a meaningful cross-curricular education for all pupils at White Notley Primary School.</p> <p>We are very aware of the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on the well being of children, staff and parents and will do our best to support this and to monitor its impact on teaching and learning in the year ahead.</p> <p>We will continue to evaluate our own effectiveness as Governors and to attend relevant training. The new Chair of Governors has started a national Leading governance course.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Ruth Hale, through the school office. You can see the full list of Governors; their attendance at meetings; and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.</p>