



Toner Avenue Primary School

Governors' Annual Report

Annual Statement of Key Issues Addressed by Governors 2021/22

The Governing Board of Toner Avenue Primary School continues to work with school leaders to promote and maintain high standards of educational achievement. Our role is to provide the strategic direction of the school and to support our senior team in continuing to improve the standards and quality of our provision.

The Governing Board will continue to prioritise the following key issues:

1. **Supporting the School's Leadership Team:** The school leadership team consists of a Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and an Assistant Head Teacher. This team is assisted by subject leads, who provide additional expertise in key subject matters. Governors will continue to offer support by providing a well structured team of individuals dedicated to school subject matters.

Impact: Our school is a vibrant, happy and caring place to learn with a strong sense of community spirit. Enthusiastic direction and leadership has led to an enhanced shared commitment to excellence and continuous improvement across all key stages.

2. **Safeguarding and Safety:** This is our single most important duty. We have reviewed all of our policies and procedures in this area and inspected the Single Central Record. School Leaders ensure that all staff receive and sign for the latest version of the government's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' document and that safeguarding continues to be a standing agenda topic during in-service days.

Impact: Our focus on pupil attendance is paramount and our aim to continually improve this will continue until the percentage of persistent absentees has reduced. The School Leadership Team are fully aware of the circumstances surrounding those who are repeatedly absent and this will be closely monitored by Governors.

Governors and the senior team promote a caring and safe environment. We will continue to work closely with the Local Authority Health and Safety Adviser to audit our premises and equipment for safety.

3. **Improving Outcomes for Pupils:** We continue to challenge the Management Team to improve outcomes at all 3 Key Stages by improving the quality of teaching. Teachers are held to account via performance management, this in conjunction with constant feedback from subject leads, will enable scrutiny of teaching standards. Planning and behaviour management has continued to be part of the ongoing training for all teaching staff, with the additional support of school leaders, if required.

Impact: Planned progress throughout the school for all pupils.

4. **Pupil assessment:** With the outbreak of Covid-19, the lack of SATs and the subsequent lockdowns, assessments have been very difficult to manage. The Management Team realise that the key issue for the school relates to the low outcome in writing at greater

depth, therefore increasing the proportion of pupils who write at greater depth is one of the school's main improvement priorities.

Impact: Assess pupils at all levels to establish those areas where improvement is required and act upon the results accordingly. Pupils deemed to be at risk of not making expected progress will be quickly identified and appropriate support arranged for them.

- 5. Improving outcomes for disadvantaged and SEN pupils:** Governors, with the senior team, have continually and very robustly monitored the progress of Pupil Premium and SEN pupils. Interventions are carefully planned to challenge pupils appropriately and the impact monitored.

Impact: The progress of disadvantaged and SEN pupils have continued to improved with the teacher reporting and data capturing system. This will continue to be monitored by the School, allowing teachers to regularly update information on their disadvantaged and SEN pupils.

- 6. Governor Monitoring and Evaluation:** Governors are linked to particular subject areas. Although Covid-19 has restricted Governors visiting the school, planned and regular visit will be resumed. As well as limited actual visits, Governors have carried out virtual visits to the school and the areas they are linked to. We have also received reports about the work of the school. Governors will continue to encourage competitive inter-school team sports activities and a range of exciting after-school activities.

Impact: Governors fully support the work of the school and are able to effectively monitor and evaluate the school. When able to visit the school, Governors have been delighted to witness happy, polite, articulate and caring pupils who are enthusiastically engaged in their learning and are particularly proud of their school.

- 7. Overseeing the Financial Performance of the School:** Governors have worked with the school to ensure the continued achievement of the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS). We utilise regular budget monitoring reports to enable us to challenge how spending is aligned with the school budget, ensuring financial resources are used effectively. Governors also monitor how the Pupil Premium and Sports funding are being used.

Impact: Financial resources are used appropriately. Our strategic use of Pupil Premium funding means that pupils' individual needs can be met and individuals have full support to fulfil their potential.

- 8. Holding the Management Team to Account:** A critical part of the Governors' role is to support the Management Team, equally it is also very important to challenge them. We do this through regular contact, visits, meetings and the work of our committees. There is a strong and robust relationship between Governors and the Management Team.

Chair of Governors: Mr George Bone MBE

Vice Chair of Governors: Ms Wendy Stead