



## GOVERNOR IMPACT STATEMENT

2022-2023

### Governors' Role

The role of the Governing Body is an intrinsic part of the leadership of the school, although often unseen by parents and other community stakeholders. This impact statement is one way in which the Governing Body articulates their role in school leadership, the impact we have had on school improvement and being transparent about our activities. The Governing Body is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers, who invest a huge amount of good will, hard work and time for the sole purpose of improving the education of every child in our school. The Government expects us, as your Governing Body, to be a dynamic group of highly skilled individuals who focus on supporting the Head Teacher and all the staff to shape the strategic direction of our school. As Governors we are accountable for the performance of our school.

We are measured by three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction.
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure the money is spent well.

We use these strategic functions together with our school values and aims (found on our website) to shape our governance to provide oversight of the school.

### Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction

We have changed the structure of the governing body meetings as per the review recommendations that was carried out in 2020 and we now will hold the following committees each term:

- ✓ Trustee Committee (6 per year)
- ✓ Finance Committee (3 per year)
- ✓ Quality of Education Committee (3 per year)
- ✓ Audit and Risk Committee (3 per year)
- ✓ Safeguarding Committee (3 per year)
- ✓ The Pay Committee, Members meetings and External Audit Committee will also be held once per year.

These meetings will change going forward as we join The Shires Multi Academy Trust from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. The arrangement of Governors meetings will fit into the agendas of the Shires Trust Board meetings with 6 per year.

This year has seen the work of the Governing Body gain momentum with link visits measuring intent, implementation and impact of the current curriculum, throughout the year in the following areas:

- Early Years
- English, Maths, Science and History
- SEND and Pupil Premium
- Safeguarding and Health and Safety

The first annual meeting of our members was held to monitor the financial audit report and the three-year budget forecast. These Members sit above the board of trustees (governors) but have a largely 'hands-off' role. Kevin Sherrington-Lodge, Phil Dolby and Martin Ward, all prominent members of our

community, undertake this significant role for our school. There were no management points following the financial audit this year and therefore no points for improvement.

We have included information within the school newsletter regarding the decisions reached at our meetings and the impact these have on the children and school. Some of our team have also completed their "Meet the Governor" article in the newsletter. Our website has been adapted to give stakeholders visibility of the governing body. There is further work to do here going forward into the Trust, to be carried out in the Autumn term of 2023/ 2024.

If you would like to contact the governors directly, you can use the email: [ABPS-office@shiresmat.org.uk](mailto:ABPS-office@shiresmat.org.uk) (also on the website).

### School Development Plan

The governing board work in partnership with the headteacher and senior leadership team (SLT) to set the priorities for the school's development (SDP) each year. The governing board are responsible for holding the school leaders to account for the progress made towards achieving the objectives and aims of the SDP.

SDP Targets for 2022/23 were set using the following focus: Quality of Education /Achievement & Standards/ Well-being / Leadership & Management/ Stakeholders

#### **Quality of Education:**

- \* To increase arithmetic speed, and improve problem solving skills
- \* To improve the teaching of SPAG, particularly spelling in Key Stage 2
- \* Address the standard of presentation across the school starting with Reception
- \* Improve teachers' knowledge of the next steps in writing, through improved assessment

#### **Achievement & Standards:**

- \* To raise attainment in maths to be in line with the end of KS2 national average

#### **Well-being:**

- \* To improve enquiry skills and children's confidence to give their opinions through Philosophy for Children (P4C)
- \* To develop a sensory room and ADHD activity trail to further develop our nurture support
- \* To continue to develop playtimes with play leaders to support playtime behaviour and team work

#### **Stakeholders:**

- \* To modernise the school website and prospectus
- \* To support the continued professional development for our classroom support partners (TAs), particularly with Pupil Led interventions in mind
- \* To continue to support our subject leaders with non-contact time to lead their subject and develop the skills progression through each subject

To enable oversight of the School Development plan (SDP) governors usually undertake a plan of monitoring "Link" visits to assess how specific aspects of the school works in practice and whether the things people say are happening are actually happening. This year has seen the work of the Governing Body gain momentum with link visits measuring, intent, implementation and impact throughout the year.

A safeguarding review was undertaken by the Safeguarding Link Governor, including monitor our Health & Safety regulations. The Safeguarding Policy was also reviewed at this time and the SCR (Single Central Record) was examined. This was also completed through the Trust as part of the due diligence process.

Other link visits were undertaken, including examining SEND provision across the school, Early Years Provision and a range of Curriculum subjects. These visits all showed the SDP targets to have been achieved. These deep dives revealed effective provision and care for children needing additional support and coverage of an exciting curriculum across the school and enthusiasm and interest from our pupil voice.

The governors had agreed the budget spend for 2022-23 including better Computing provision and reading materials amongst other resources to enhance the curriculum. We set ourselves aspirational targets for children reaching Age Related Expectations (ARE) in English reading & writing and Maths by July 2023. Improvement was noted in Mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2, showing the impact of pupil led funding being targeted in this area.

This information from this data has then been used in part to inform the new SDP for 2023/24, which was discussed at our meeting in July and will be finalised in the Autumn of 2023.

#### Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils

The HT review panel undertook the review, and targets for this year were set.

The governors have monitored the staff surveys throughout the year. One of the main outcomes of staff surveys in 2021/ 2022 was to increase the continued professional development (CPD) of teachers. In light of this, governors increased the school's CPD budget for 2022-23 and there has been increased CPD this year. This will continue going forward into the Trust with access to National Qualification for subject leaders and National College CPD tool.

School data showed significant improvements in Mathematics.

The final target for the HT performance was to support and implement the consultation process and due diligence to join the Shires Trust in September 2023.

#### Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure the money is spent well

The governors oversee the finances of the school and each year approve the budget for the school to maintain the school cash flow.

For several years, due to the school changing from a First to a Primary school, there has been a funding lag as school funds are based on the number of children in the school during the *previous* year. It has been a trying time for the school and the school finances were closely monitored and spending was curtailed on anything but high priorities.

Now, some years on this year found us in a better position and there have been significant improvements made to Resources, developing the environment and CPD.

The governors monitor the pupil premium targets and the budget spend in line with these actions and the impacts they have to reduce any gaps in progress or attainment of this group of children. The governors note that for most of the Pupil Premium funded children the funds are used to supply uniform, places on trips and extra curriculum classes so that these children do not feel disadvantaged with respect to their peers. Interventions in terms of learning, are also targeted from this funding pot.

In terms of the wider budget, the governors have ratified the budget for next year and have approved additional spending in line with our school development plans.

As a governing body we are enthusiastic about the coming year and everything that joining the family of schools in the Shires Trust will bring.

# Astwood Bank Primary School



*A centre of learning and opportunity*