

Annual Statement from the Governing Board of Marsden Primary School

We, the Governing Board of Marsden Primary School, work with the Head teacher to promote and maintain high standards of educational achievement.

The core functions of the Governing Board are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; to ensure pupils are safe and happy;
- Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance of staff;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school, and making sure its money is well spent.
- Ensuring appropriate Health & Safety procedures are in place in relation to normal daily running and exceptional circumstances within school.

Key issues that have faced the Governing Board during 2019/2020

SIP:

We have worked in cooperation with the Head teacher and senior management monitoring and updating the School Improvement Plan (SIP) which sets the aims and objectives for the school. The current SIP is based on priorities identified from data, OFSTED priorities and school self-evaluation. The SIP is set out with clear aims, the key tasks which will be completed in order to achieve these aims and the success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SIP is monitored and reviewed termly, with an evaluation overview being completed and presented to governors through the termly Head teacher report. Due to current pandemic, amendments have been made to the SIP to provide home learning which is of high quality and accessible to all.

The current targets of the School Improvement Plan are:

To address the areas for improvement highlighted in the OFSTED inspection (April 2018):

- To ensure that learning activities provide sufficient challenge for all pupils, so that more pupils reach the highest standards they are capable of
- To ensure that outcomes for disadvantaged pupils continue to improve by the end of key stages 1 and 2
- To improve the standards of Teaching so it is good / outstanding in all year groups

To ensure writing skills are embedded throughout every aspects of the children's education at Marsden.

- To ensure that all staff are confident with their year groups outcomes and expectations.
- To develop a consistent method of assessment which ensures ALL children are closely monitored and then taught the next steps.
- To ensure that the 'basics' of the English curriculum are taught to the highest possible standard.

Develop a curriculum for Marsden which inspires, develops and enthuses the Marsden children

- Evaluate the current curriculum – considering strengths and weaknesses.
- Create a curriculum rationale and a focus driver to move the new curriculum forward.
- The curriculum has clear progression and is built around the heart of the school.
- Progress of learners can be tracked and used to evaluate the learning as the children move through the school.

To develop the management structure of the school through future proofing key leadership responsibilities.

- To develop and expand the skills of Senior Leaders and to build upon their strengths to ensure they impact significantly on the school's provision.
- New middle leaders to have support and be able to gain confidence and experience in their role.
- All staff to move their subject forward in a clear and formalised way to provide the best for the children.

The School Development Plan is split into three main sections: Teaching, Learning & Assessment; Outcomes for Pupils (including historical results and target setting) Leadership & Management. To sit alongside this document individual leaders have written their own subject action plan.

Assessment of the impact of the Governing Board on the school during 2019/20

We, the governing body, along with the Head teacher, senior management team and all members of staff are constantly striving to improve and develop the school. The Governors have striven to ensure the Health and Safety and well-being, including mental health of all staff, pupils and wider community throughout the pandemic.

- Excellent progress at Marsden in all aspects of school life.
- The groups of pupils identified at SEND achieve very well.
- An accessible curriculum which inspires the children to learn.
- Ensuring amendments have been made to the safeguarding and behaviour policies to ensure they are appropriate during the pandemic.
- Leadership structures in place dividing the school into three specific phases, working together to provide a good level of accountability across the whole school.
- Significantly improved school environment both inside and outside of the building.
- The overall effectiveness of Marsden Primary School is significantly good with outstanding elements as confirmed by the Local Authority in March 2017 and OFSTED in April 2018.
- In order to challenge the school, all governors are trained to ensure they have the knowledge and vision of current educational issues locally and nationally. They constantly ensure that the school follows all Health and Safety guidelines to protect staff and children whilst they are at the school.

- Governors have ensured that Risk Assessments have been completed and adhered to in order to keep staff and pupils as safe as possible in the current pandemic.

We, the Governors, have shown a very high level of commitment to achieving what Marsden Primary School needs to take the school from good to outstanding. We offer an increasingly outstanding level of challenge and support to the school, through the legal requirements, but also by working as part of the wider school community, specifically volunteering in school with reading and other wider roles. We have ensured the school fully meet statutory requirements relating to safeguarding.

Mrs Teresa Lawton, Chair of Governor's September 2020.