

2019 Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Green Lane Church of England Primary School, Barnard Castle

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all governing bodies the 3 core strategic functions of Green Lane CE School's 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, and the performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements	<p>The Governing body of the school was re-constituted in 2015 and consists of the following members: The Headteacher, one staff governor, six elected parent governors, one Local Authority governor, four Foundation governors and four co-opted governors.</p> <p>Foundation Governors are appointed by the Durham Diocesan Board of Education in liaison with Barnard Castle Parish Church and, whilst contributing to the work of the whole governing body have a particular role in overseeing the Christian Ethos of the school.</p> <p>The Full Governing body meets once a term with a number of sub committees considering different aspects of school life in greater detail. Currently we have the following committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum • Finance and premises • Personnel • Christian ethos <p>We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.</p>
Attendance record of Governors	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not 'quorate' (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).</p>
The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body	<p>Curriculum: At each curriculum committee meeting governors assess pupil progress against agreed targets by analysing and interrogating data presented by staff. The progress of those children receiving pupil premium funding from the government is monitored as part of this process. The implications of our analysis are discussed. The committee has recently received reports from staff on: the marking and feedback policy to reduce teacher workload, the progress of children across all year groups so that all pupils are maximising their potential, the use of 'Votes for Schools' to further develop pupils' questioning and curiosity, how to use the Inspection Dashboard (ISDR) to better understand and challenge the school's performance.</p> <p>Personnel: The personnel committee oversees the staffing of the school and those matters that touch on the effectiveness of both teaching and support staff. Particular care is given to ensuring that interventions to assist learning are targeted appropriately. Recently the committee has supported the development of two members of staff to qualify as higher-level teaching assistants so that reliance on supply</p>

	<p>cover is reduced, the committee also oversaw a change in the leadership structure to employ a deputy headteacher thus adding greater clarity to school's decision-making process, the committee has reviewed a number of policies as well as putting secure GDPR procedures in place</p> <p>Finance and Premises: This Committee oversees the school's budgets (including those for specific projects or purposes – Sports premium, Pupil premium) and notes and interrogates any variations reported. It has oversight of major building/premises matters and has been particularly involved this year in investigating the possibility of installing solar panels on the school. It plays a role in reviewing school policies such as Teacher's pay; Health and safety and Fire Safety. Recently the committee has played a major role in the reduction of supply costs, it has also supported the school in the allocation of capital funding to bring about changes to the structure and decoration of the building.</p> <p>Christian Ethos: The school works hard to promote a positive working and learning environment for its pupils and staff. It has supported the school during its recent Church of England (SIAMs) inspection playing a major part in its achievement of the top grading – excellent, the committee has also conducted a number of learning walks aimed at embedding the school's core Christian values and seeing its mission statement from St John's Gospel brought to life, it has also introduced a communion on school's service each term to which members of St Mary's congregation are invited, the committee has helped develop and deliver termly pop-up prayer space events in school, the committee has helped improve RE provision through a subject specific scrutiny</p> <p>The whole Governing Body receives information from its committees. Each of its meetings devotes considerable time to interrogating the Head Teacher's report to the Governors. National Government & Local Authority guidance is received.</p> <p>Governors have also carried out a number of visits to monitor and evaluate the work of the school: the most recent of these have reported on RE teaching across the school, book scrutinies to judge the effectiveness of the new assessment systems.</p>
Future plans for the Governing Body	The Governing Body will be meeting with staff to help review the school improvement plan and play a leading role in the identification of new targets. Governors will link up with school subject leaders to scrutinise and support specific subjects.
Contact Details	The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.