

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of St Michael's Church of England, VA, Primary and Nursery School September 2019 to July 2020

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of St Michael's Church of England, VA, Primary and Nursery School are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils**
- 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

- From September 2019 to July 2020 the Governing Body consisted of:
 - 5 Foundation Governors
 - The Head Teacher
 - 1 LA governor
 - 2 elected parent governors
 - 1 staff governor
- During the year we welcomed 1 new governor on to the board.
- Vacancies exist for 2 foundation governor and steps are being taken to fill these places
- When appointing governors, we try to ensure that all sections of our community are represented.
- The full Governing Body meet five times a year or more if the need arises.
- The committee structure of the Governing Body from September 2019 has three committees:
 - Curriculum Committee - which looks at the effectiveness of the implementation of the curriculum, assessments and performance data, behaviour and pupil welfare, staff performance management and professional development.
 - Finance and General Purposes Committee – which agrees the school budget and monitors the financial management of the school, looks at the management of the school buildings and grounds to ensure safe and effective space for the children to learn.
 - Strategy Committee – Looks at the long term aims for the school and strategic direction for the future, including large building projects and community engagement.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All committees consider safeguarding of paramount importance and this is reflected in their decision making and monitoring. • Committees meet once or twice a term as needs arise and report back to the full Governing Body meetings. • An appeals panel would be organised if the need arose. • The current structure was established in September 2018 following a review in July 2018.
Attendance Record of Governors	Governors have excellent attendance at meetings, we have rarely had to postpone a meeting due to it not being “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).
Governor Roles	<p>As governors we have different roles and attend training sessions provided by Educator Solutions which are held at school or other training venues around the county – this ensures we are well informed and kept up to date with current requirements in order to support the Headteacher and staff.</p> <p>The governor roles during the year were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND, safeguarding and child mental health governor– Mary Evans • Chair of Governors – Olivia Corfield • Vice Chair, Finance Governor and Aylsham Trust governor – David Hibberd • Trustees of Aylsham Co-operative Trust – David Hibberd • Looked After Children and Pupil Premium – Eleanor Milligan • Health and Safety governor – Chris Marriott
The Work of the Governing Body During this Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body has supported the head teacher through the school’s Ofsted inspection. • The Governing Body are ensuring they are holding all teachers to account through rigorous monitoring and feedback. • The Governing Body are ensuring the school’s leadership are enabling subject leaders to have a clear understanding of their areas for responsibility and highlighting any training needs. • The Governing Body supported the school through the COVID-19 Lockdown period. • Policies have been reviewed as per the agreed framework. • The Governing Body has supported the school in planning for a new year group including appointing a new full time teacher for maternity cover and part time teacher. • The Finance and General Purposes committee have looked at the budget in line with current county financial challenges

	<p>and worked hard to ensure that best value for money has always been sought and is allocated effectively to ensure the children receive the best possible education. Pupil premium, SEN and Sports premium funding are closely monitored to ensure they are used to best effect for the children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Finance and General Purposes committee have supported the school through a change to the staffing structure to provide better use of staff resources for a better learning experience. • The Curriculum committee have challenged the school leadership to ensure the improvements recommended by Ofsted are being effectively implemented. • The Health and Safety Governor has looked through the Health and Safety audit carried out by the head teacher. • Governors are vigilant about Safeguarding and we have a nominated governor for Safeguarding who carries out rigorous monitoring and reports to all governors. Governors agreed the use of the My Concern safeguarding software which ensures clear safeguarding reporting and documentation. The head also gives a safeguarding report to governors at every FGB meeting. • Minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents – and are accessible on the Governors’ page of the website or via the school office.
<p>Future Plans for the Governing Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body will continue to ensure that Christian values underpin all learning in the school which will nurture children to achieve infinitely more than we might ask, or they may dream; empowering them so they can flourish as confident citizens now and in the future. • The Governing Board will continue to be a ‘critical friend’ in offering challenge and support to the school leadership. • The monitoring carried out by Governors is under constant review to ensure it is focussed on the requirements of the School Improvement and Development Plan (SIDP). • Governors will continue to monitor the development of the RE curriculum and Collective Worship. • Governors will monitor the implementation of the new RSE curriculum and the well-being of children returning to school after Lockdown. • Governors will monitor all areas of the curriculum with focus on reading and maths to ensure the most effective use of resources to enhance learning and continue to provide the relevant statutory requirements in the best interests of pupils. • Governors will monitor the effectiveness of the PE CPD and curriculum ensuring all teachers deliver excellence in PE.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors will oversee the building of the new nursery and new classroom. • The Governing body will ensure the school is able to adapt to the changes arising from the growth in Aylsham, new government initiatives and increase in age range as the school becomes a full primary. • The Governing Body will continue to be involved as a member of the Aylsham Trust cluster of schools. • New foundation governors will be encouraged to join the governing body.
<p>Contacting the Governing Board</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors (Mrs Olivia Corfield), via the school office. The full list of Governors, minutes of Governing Board meetings and more information about what we do are available on the Governors' page of the school website.</p>