

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of St Michael's Church of England, VA, Primary and Nursery School September 2022 to July 2023

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 2022 to July 2023 the Governing Body consisted of:
 - 4 Foundation Governors and 3 Foundation Governor vacancies
 - The Head Teacher
 - 1 LA governor
 - 2 elected parent governors
 - 1 staff governor
- 1 staff governor stood down at the end of last year and a new 1 has been appointed. We are thankful for all they have contributed.
- Vacancies exist for 3 foundation governors, although 1 position is about to be filled.
- 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 has two 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.
 - A Partnership Committee is being formed with governors from the Blue Sky Federation, terms of reference are yet to be fully formulated.

	<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.
Attendance Record of Governors	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings, we have had to postpone some meetings due to it not being “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made), but all business has been completed in a timely manner.</p>
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 or virtually– 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"> • Safeguarding and child mental health – Olivia Corfield • SEND – Eleanor Milligan • Chair of Governors – Olivia Corfield • Vice Chair, Finance & GP Chair, Data Protection and Aylsham Trust governor, Health and Safety – David Hibberd • Trustees of Aylsham Co-operative Trust – David Hibberd • Looked After Children and Pupil Premium – Eleanor Milligan
The Work of the Governing Body During this Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body has supported the head teacher in completing due diligence into the proposed partnership with the Blue Sky Federation. • The Governing Body continues to monitor staff well-being. • 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 to the Pastoral Lead being trained as a second DDSL. Governors agreed the continued 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. • 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, highlighting any training needs

	<p>and ensuring progression can be seen across all year groups from nursery to year 6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body supported the school's overhaul of the curriculum and continuous development. • The Governing Body supported the school when ill-informed and false reports of the school closing were made by the Town Council. • Policies have been reviewed as per the agreed framework. • The Finance and General Purposes committee have looked at the budget in line with current county financial challenges 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, Covid catch up, In-school tutor-led programme, SEN and Sports premium funding are closely monitored to ensure they are used to best effect for the children. • Governors agreed to the appointment of an admin assistant for the school to help ensure the smooth running of the school's finance and logistical side. • 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. • 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 Development Plan (SDP). • Governors will monitor the effectiveness of the partnership with the Blue Sky Federation and whether a proposal should be made to Federate in September 2024. • Governors will continue to monitor the development of the RE curriculum, Spirituality across the school and Collective Worship. • Governors will monitor the well-being of children and staff. • Governors will monitor all areas of the curriculum with focus on reading and maths to ensure the most effective use of

	<p>resources to enhance learning and continue to provide the relevant statutory requirements in the best interests of pupils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors will monitor the effectiveness of the PE and curriculum ensuring all teachers deliver excellence in PE. • Governors push forward the project to have specialist double glazing in the school, to have new fencing around the perimeter and to successfully implement Connect the 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>