

Crockerton C of E VA Primary School

Potters Hill
Crockerton
Warminster
Wiltshire
BA12 8AB



Annual Governance Statement 2016/2017

INTRODUCTION

Following recent guidelines laid down by The Department for Education, school governing bodies are encouraged to produce an annual statement for parents and all other stakeholders connected to their school.

Whilst this is not a statutory requirement it is good practice and provides some insight into the role of the Governing Body.

Please take the time to read through this statement.

THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

We are committed to making sure our Schools provide the very best standard of education for all children. We aim to ensure all children fulfil and exceed their potential. We expect behaviour and attendance standards to be high.

As a Church of England school our Christian ethos is at the centre of helping pupils to learn the values that will support them in developing into role models among the local and wider community.

We are committed to ensuring consistent teaching throughout the school, allowing the children to make significant progress during their time at our schools. Regular assessments into the quality of teaching are undertaken by the Head Teacher.

This year the federation with Heytesbury C of E School ended, allowing Crockerton to be a standalone school. Crockerton also regained its own headteacher with responsibility for one school only. The governing body felt these steps were essential for the long- term sustainability for the school.

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

Full Governing Body meetings are held every term (six times a year). At each meeting the Head Teacher presents the Governing Body with a detailed report. The content of the Head Teacher's report is driven by the Governing Body and allows us to support and challenge the school where necessary.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school

The Governing Body approves the school budget, and ensures the school's finances are regularly monitored and that money is spent sensibly and in a way that provides good value.

Other actions of the Governing Body

We link individual governors to a curriculum area. Governors are encouraged to visit the school regularly to gain wider knowledge of how the curriculum is taught and work closely with the Subject Leaders. In addition, individual governors also have specific responsibilities for Special Education Needs, Safeguarding and Whistleblowing. Governors regularly support events held both within and outside of the school.

REMIT OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY AND ITS COMMITTEES

The Governing Body takes full responsibility for the conduct of the school, and, as stated, will promote high educational standards and do all they can to ensure the School community flourishes.

Governing Body Committees

The Governing Body is split into three committees: Strategic; Business (incorporating Health and Safety) and Standards. These committees also meet every term (six times a year), prior to each Full Governing Body meeting. The minutes from the three Committees are documented and discussed at the Full Governing Body meetings.

Strategic Committee

The Committee consists of the Chair of Governors; the Vice Chair(s) of Governors; the Chair of the Standards Committee and the Chair of the Business Committee and the Head teacher and others by invitation.

Responsibilities of the Strategic Committee include:

- Establishing and promoting a clear ethos and vision
- Developing the long-term strategy for delivery of the vision
- Overview of the whole School Improvement Plan & Self Evaluation.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the Governing Body

Business Committee

Responsibilities of the Business Committee include:

- Recommending to the Governing Body for adoption the annual budget
- Monitoring the budget and evaluating the effectiveness of spending
- Reviewing and recommending to the Governing Body staffing levels and pay policy

Some of the financial decisions are delegated to the Head teacher and/or the Business Finance Manager.

Standards Committee

Responsibilities of the Standards Committee include:

- Evaluation of matters relating to teaching and learning
- Monitoring of data relating to attainment and progress of pupils
- Challenging staff about how best actions for children are to be achieved

For special areas of work that don't obviously fall within the remit of the committees listed above, the Governing Body establishes temporary working parties, to offer a shorter term and flexible solution. These working parties report to the Strategic Committee and on to the Full Governing Body.

The performance of the Head Teacher is scrutinised by a panel of members of the Governing Body in conjunction with our advisor from Wiltshire Local Authority. Educational performance and personal development targets are set for the Head that will help drive school improvement.

All Governors are volunteers; (with the exception of the Head teacher and the Vicar who are "ex-officio governors) all dedicate their time and effort to produce a thriving school for our children.

Barley Moss

Chair of Governors

September 2017