

HIGH STREET SCHOOL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

High Street Governing Board is committed to the essentials of effective Governance by the three core functions as outlined in the DFE 2015 Governance Handbook:

- Ensuring clarity of vision and strategic direction.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the Performance Management of Staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

High Street: The Story So Far

As we begin the 2016 Academic year we are at an exciting moment of change as we work to join the Reach South Academy Trust.

Over the past two years we have been managing a great deal of change.

Our Headteacher joined us in September 2014 alongside a new Chair and Vice Chair of Governors being elected by the Governing Board. The Deputy Head started adoption leave in January 2015 and returned part time in January 2016 and then fulltime in September 2016. During the period of adoption leave an acting Deputy Head was appointed by internal interviews and there was then a restructure of the Senior Leadership Team – Key Stage one and two leaders joined the SLT.

In the Autumn term of 2015 the Chair resigned as he was relocating to Hampshire so a new Chair and Vice Chair were elected.

Due to retirement and staff relocation three new teachers were appointed to High Street for the Autumn term of 2015 (Y3, Y5 and SENDco) The SENDco also joined the SLT to ensure that monitoring could be undertaken.

During the Autumn term 2015 our Governors' Clerk of many years resigned due to family commitments and a new Clerk to Governors was advertised and appointed. An administration assistant joined the office team to ensure that it is effective and efficient.

Despite this turbulence in the staffing arrangements High Street Primary remained a happy school with well behaved children.

A Governance Plan was written in the Autumn Term in 2015 and is available on this website. There are no longer separate meetings for curriculum/personnel and finance as the full Governing body meets monthly to consider all business.

<p>High Street: The Story So Far (continued)</p>	<p>In addition, in the Summer term of 2015, the Governors agreed to go out to consultation to become a Foundation school. After due process the school became a Foundation school with the foundation being Co-operative. As a result, High Street joined the South West Plymouth Education Trust so that the school could work in collaboration with other six other local schools within our community.</p> <p>This was an excellent opportunity for High Street to be a member of an already well-established constituted partnership of schools and as a result High Street worked within the Strategic Action Plan for the Trust. This involved School reviews, partner work with the LLE on school improvement, continuing professional development for the whole staff and sharing data to identify areas of development across the schools as a whole. Now we are moving forward by becoming a member of the Reach South family of schools.</p> <p>The Governors are part of the performance management of the Headteacher and along with the Local Authority School Advisor the Headteacher's PM has been completed and is up to date for the current academic year. In future we will undertake this duty under the guidance of the CEO of Reach South and members of the Governing Board</p>
<p>Governor Action Plan 2015 -2018</p>	<p>The Governing Board of High Street have grown with the challenges they have had to deal with in the past few months in terms of personnel and administrative changes and are now operating well as a team.</p> <p>Specific areas of work for us in the future will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight for the delivery of the Strategic Impact Plan 2016-18 • Continuing support for the SLT in improving learning outcomes for the children • Embedding the plans of Reach South in the ethos and processes of the High Street School • Embed and monitor the new Governance Plan and feedback to the Governing Board <p>As Governors we</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss data and progress at monthly Governor Board meetings. • Ensure that all lessons are graded 'good' or better. • Evaluate interventions for their effectiveness. • Oversee that all vulnerable groups have their needs met: in particular, children who have free school meals, children with English as an Additional language, children with Special Educational Needs, Disadvantaged Pupils and Looked After Children.

Governor Action Plan 2015-2018 (cont'd)	<p>Individual governors feedback to the Governing Board on their area curriculum responsibility</p> <p>Annual Safeguarding Audit and spot checks to be carried out</p> <p>Behaviour and attendance monitoring</p> <p>Individual Governors feedback to Governing Body on their area curriculum of responsibility</p>
Attendance record of Governors	The monthly meetings are well attended.
Governor Visits	<p>During the academic year of 2015/16 there was a reallocation of roles and these are listed on our web page. Governors will liaise with teachers on their curriculum area visit and report on classroom observations. Governors are also expected to support school activities, assemblies, school trips and events.</p> <p>Governors report back regularly to the full governing board.</p>
Data Analysis	<p>The Governors are now engaged in data analysis on a regular basis through the monthly Governing Body meetings and through working with the Senior Management Team and their subject area teachers. It is planned that Governors will be invited to Pupil Progress Meetings to be fully involved in school monitoring and the way interventions are adapted to meet the learning needs of the pupils.</p> <p>The SENDco recently submitted a paper to the Governing Body and it was decided to invite the SENDco to talk it through at the next Governing Body meeting.</p> <p>Arbor was commissioned to give a strategic breakdown of our RAISE on-line data. This was distributed and scrutinized at a Governing Board. RAISE Online training was organised so that all SLTs are secure in their understanding of validated and unvalidated data. The Chair of Governors meets fortnightly with the Headteacher to discuss school business and to be kept up to date on data analysis and results of new initiatives that underpin learning. This can then be brought to the next Governing Body meeting.</p> <p>There is scrutiny of Pupil Premium funding and papers submitted to the Governing Body.</p> <p>We will work with Reach South for best practice arrangements for monitoring progress</p> <p>In addition to monitoring the quantitative data we also like to monitor qualitative data and to this end we have undertaken questionnaires of parents and pupils to seek their views on the strengths and weaknesses of the school</p>

Governor Training	<p>During the Academic Year15/16 Governors have received the following training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Clerks Update Sessions • Thrive • Prevent • Head Teacher Appraisal • Safeguarding recruitment • Regional Schools commissioner training on multi academy trusts <p>Governors as a group have received training in Read Write Inc.</p>
Policies	<p>As part of the rolling programme Reach South policies are submitted to the Governing Body for ratification. All statutory policies can be viewed on the school website which has also been redesigned so that it is compliant with Ofsted requirements.</p> <p>It is very important that the school complies with the Department for Education schools mandatory policy list and the Local Authorities advisory recommended good practice</p>
Keeping Children Safe in Education and Safer Recruitment	<p>We will be working to the newly published statutory guidance “Keeping Children safe in Education” in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils.</p> <p>The Headteacher and two governors have attended safer recruitment training. These Governors were then involved with the appointment of the three teachers in June 2015.</p>
Financial Management	<p>The Governors, Headteacher and Business Manager are scrupulous at achieving value for money for the school. This has needed careful planning and investigations when it comes to IT and expensive purchases.</p> <p>There has been an element of catch-up over the past twelve months as the school was in need of reading books for Key Stage One, new technology, curriculum training, support and advice. The FS2 and Key stage 1 also needed major refurbishment.</p> <p>Additional staffing has supported some of the older children with specific needs. Pupil Premium funding has been used in both Key stages to employ two further teachers on a part time basis to address pupil’s progress in years 2 and 5.</p> <p>In the future Reach South will have overall responsibility for financial management but the Governing Board will support Reach South through budget monitoring in their monthly meetings.</p>

<p>Future Plans for Governors</p>	<p>The Governing Board continues to work in the best interests of children, parents, staff and the wider community. We have dealt with many changes and we are now moving on as a stronger team with the two new governors.</p> <p>We are excited about the opportunities of working with Reach South and will do our best to ensure that we remain focused on the strategic plan to work together to make a difference to the educational experience of our children.</p> <p>How to contact the Governing Board:</p> <p>We welcome contact from pupils, parents/carers and the local community</p> <p>Please contact the admin office by either phoning the school on 01752 225649 or emailing using the following address:</p> <p>High.St.Primary.School@plymouth.gov.uk</p> <p>Annie McGee Chair of Governors</p>
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