

Governors' Annual Statement to Parents 2016-2017

This has been the first full year South Harringay School has existed after formal federation of the Infants and Juniors. Although the schools are federated, Ofsted inspects the Infants & Juniors separately and both schools were inspected this year and rated "Good".

School Governing Bodies have 3 core functions:

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
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

We have met as a full Governing Body 5 times this year, and each of our 3 committees; (i) Resources, (ii) Teaching & Learning and (iii) Children, Families and Community meets 4 or 5 times per year. Almost all non-staff governors are a link governor for one or more of; English, Maths, Science, International Primary Curriculum, Early Years, Special Educational Needs (SEN), Pupil Premium & Sports funding, Health & Safety and Safeguarding, and will meet with the staff subject lead or the headteacher, usually twice a year, to discuss and monitor progress. All governors come in to school for "Governors in School" day which was in March this year, to observe lessons and activities and talk to the children. Governors are also expected to attend training sessions to enhance their skills and keep up to date in the constantly changing education environment.

Teaching and Learning Committee

The Teaching & Learning Committee monitors and evaluates pupil achievement and the quality of teaching, ensuring the school provides a high quality learning experience and delivers a broad and balanced curriculum.

The School Improvement Plan sets specific targets for raising attainment and progress and we monitor these throughout the year. This committee reviews the school's assessment data and look at trends across year groups, and at sub-groups within each year, for example boys and girls, those with English as an additional language, ethnicity groups, disadvantaged groups. Whilst at the time of writing the end of year data were still being analysed, mid-year data was looking promising in terms of targets being met. We invite staff to meetings to present on various topics; for example this year we heard how each pupil's progress is tracked, and how science is delivered across the curriculum. Link governors discuss with staff subject leads in more detail how the curriculum is being delivered, how resources are being used, what interventions are in place, what staff development is taking place.

Resources Committee

The school is currently in a healthy financial situation, and this year has invested in new smartboards and photocopiers in the Infants building, and governors have approved spending to systematically upgrade and improve the IT provision in the school to support learning – including upgrading the WiFi service across the school buildings, the whiteboards in the Juniors building and the purchase of new ipads and laptops. Some of the windows have been repaired or refurbished, and spending has been approved for improved lighting, redecoration and new lockers. At the beginning of this term School took on an additional Teaching Assistant and a Learning Mentor who has been primarily based in the Infants. Plans for better use of the Nursery building are still under discussion with the Local Authority. While careful planning over recent years is allowing us to invest in capital works and equipment, the annual budget would be in deficit if it wasn't for the swimming pool generating income for the school. The swimming pool is successfully managed by the school and is an asset to be looked after. The new school funding formula comes into effect in April 2018 and is likely to result in a reduced budget for South Harringay.

Children, Families & Communication Committee

The Children, Families & Communication Committee has been a new committee this year. We have looked at the children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural understanding and development, including reference to the school values, 'Open Mindsets' and British values, and were able to question groups of Infants and Juniors children on this during "Governors in School" day. We have discussed Prevent and Female Genital Mutilation and how these are being incorporated into the curriculum and what training is available. We have had discussions around pupil voice, looked at results from the parent and pupil surveys, ratings of the website and communication methods, discussions of which will continue next year. We check the website to make sure all the information that is supposed to be there is. This committee also monitors safeguarding.

Members of the Governing Body

The Governing Body currently has 13 members and 2 associate members:

- 2 Parent Governors elected by parents
- 1 Local Authority Governor
- 1 Staff Governor appointed by a ballot of staff & 1 staff governor co-opted, making sure we have a staff member from Infants & Juniors
- 7 additional co-opted Governors appointed by the Governing Body
- The Head Teacher is an ex-officio governor

School governors for 2016-2017

Staff (2)

Ian Scotchbrook (Headteacher)
Kelli Arnold

Parent (2)

Tessa Parsons (co-Vice-Chair)
Polly Haste O

LA (1)

Erin Stephens

Co-opted (8)

Karen Tate (Chair)
Keith Pullinger (co-Vice-Chair)
Iona Desai
Harriet Gervasio (until 21/07/17)
Naveed Kazmi
Adrenne Read
Michael Taylor
Yo Hearne (until 31/12/16)

Associate (2)

Heather De Silva
Mike Gordon

Minutes of meetings are posted on the school website and parents/carers are always welcome to observe meetings – please contact the school office to let them know you would like to come.

SHS Governing Body, July 2017.