

Governors Annual Statement 2017 -2018
"The best that we can be"

"leaders and governors have high expectations of pupils in terms of learning and attainment"

"Governors are highly ambitious for the school " (Ofsted May 2016)

Swarland Primary School Governors provide support and challenge to the school, ensure that it is well-led, resources are effectively managed, and is a safe environment. We also ensure that information is regularly shared with parents and carers, in an easily accessible manner.

This annual statement is part of that process.

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

School Development Plan (SDP):

All the priorities for the forthcoming year are set out in the School Development Plan (SDP) The current SDP is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities and is the result of considerable analysis and input from the school leadership team and all staff.

Governors work in partnership with the headteacher and staff in the formulation and monitoring of the SDP which sets priorities and targets for the forthcoming year.

The 2018-19 targets of the SDP are:

- **To increase the number of children working at greater depth in foundation subjects through the use of incisive feedback and marking**
- **To raise outcomes across the school in writing with a focus on boys, SEND and disadvantaged pupils.**
- **To sustain and improve upon the number of children making "Age Related Expectations" and "Greater Depth" in maths through critical thinking in the mastery curriculum.**
- **To increase the proportion of outstanding lessons across the school sustaining 100% at least good during staff transitions.**
- **Parents are provided with clear and timely information on how well their child is progressing and how well their child is doing in relation to the standards expected. Parents are given guidance about how to support their child to improve**
- **Teachers provide pupils with incisive feedback, in line with the school's assessment policy, about what pupils can do to improve their knowledge, understanding and skills. The pupils use this feedback effectively in foundation subjects.**
- **To enable staff to excel through CPD opportunities, resulting in increased outcomes in writing and maths.**
- **To develop the capacity and effectiveness of leadership across the school resulting in outstanding outcomes**
- **To manage effective transition from first school to primary securing sustained progress for Y6 pupils.**
- **Pupils have an excellent understanding of how to stay safe online, the dangers of inappropriate use of mobile technology and social networking sites including our older children.**
- **Pupils work hard with the school to prevent all forms of bullying, including online bullying and prejudice-based bullying working towards renewing anti-bullying accreditation.**

Each term Governors review the progress made in achieving the SDP priorities and targets and at the end of the academic year Governors meet together to assess the year and discuss priorities for the following year. At the beginning of each school year there is a meeting where governors agree the when and how SDP priorities are to be monitored.

Governor visits:

Governors visit the school as part of the monitoring process of the SDP and to address identified issues. The visits are a valuable opportunity for governors to be able to work closely with staff members and pupils.

Governor Monitoring Visits during 2017-2018

In addition to other monitoring activities Governors carried out 10 "School Development Plan" monitoring visits in school.

SDP Outcomes for Pupils

Priority 1. Ensure that more able pupils make substantial and sustained progress by being consistently challenged to reach the highest standards of which they are capable.

Priority 2

Ensure pupils acquire knowledge and develop and apply a wide range of skills to great effect in mathematics and writing across the curriculum

Priority 3

To secure at least good progress of disadvantaged (FSM/SEND) children so it matches or is improving towards that of other pupils national, from their starting points.

SDP –Quality of Teaching Learning and Assess-

Priority 1

To increase the proportion of outstanding lessons across the school sustaining 100% at least good.

Priority 2

To utilise an effective assessment system to track children's progress ensuring all children reach the highest standards of which they are capable, with particular reference to maths

Feedback on each visit is presented to the Governing Body, in a written report, at the next appropriate meeting.

Data analysis:

Data is made available to governors through termly meetings with verbal and written presentations followed by question sessions with the headteacher.

The governors are able to benchmark the data against similar schools, the Local Authority and schools nationally to ensure the schools standards and expectations are high.

Particular scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups, including vulnerable groups, and on the effective use of the Pupil Premium.

Governor Training

Training is available to Governors from the Local Authority and a variety of sources.. All Governors training records are kept in school.

With the new Government Funding Formula impacting on school this year the Governing Body received "Budget Risk Management" training from the Local Authority.

Policies:

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date.

Attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department for Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list.

School Finance:

The governors ensure that the budget is managed effectively and improvements are effective and continuous. In a school of our size each spending decision is carefully scrutinized to ensure that it represents value for money and will impact on the pupils.

Governor Meeting Attendance:

There have been 10 formal governor meetings for the year 2017 -2018 and a Governor Training Day in July.

Governor attendance continues to be high, with any apologies being accepted and approved by the governing body.

The focus for 2018-2019

The governing body and staff are constantly striving to improve and develop the school.

Our focus for 2018-2019 will include:

Ensure sustained improvement in pupil progress and attainment across all ability groups including vulnerable groups.

Ensure school is meeting the needs of our Upper Key Stage Two pupils.

Ensure the Governing Body have a complete skills set

Continued training of governors to ensure they can continue to support and challenge the school effectively.

Maureen Bickerdike

Chair of Governors

September 2018