

Governors Annual Statement 2019/2020

Manorway Academy School

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all Governing Bodies, the three strategic functions of Manorway Governing Board are:-

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

Our governing board consists of five members who have the skills and expertise required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. As governors, we challenge the school by holding the head teacher to account for improving the quality of teaching, learning and school performance. We achieve this through questioning, regular monitoring and analysis of data on children's performance and progress. Governors hold the head teacher to account for the performance management of teachers. The head teacher's performance review will be conducted by the Chair of Governors and another trained in the appraisal process.

The Governing Board considers:-

- Standards, attainment and progress of all year groups
- The School's Improvement Plan and Action Plan
- Attendance and punctuality
- Safeguarding
- Staffing
- Finance monitoring termly
- Support for children with special educational needs

Here are some of the ways in which the Governing Board impact on the strategic management of the school:-

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

The head teacher shares the School Improvement Plan with the governors, so we can identify, and monitor progress made towards the key area objectives. The current SIP is based on priorities identified from data and Ofsted priorities. The SIP is reviewed and monitored termly and discussed at governor's meetings along with the action plan, adjustments are made if needed.

Policies

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date. Special attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education's mandatory policy list and the Local Authorities recommended list. This is also reflected on the school's website along with the Covid 19 recommendations.

Data

Data is made available to governors through monthly meetings with both verbal and written presentations followed by question and answer sessions with the head teacher. Emphasis is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups. Any exclusions are discussed and appropriate procedures are put into place if required.

Finance

Members of the governing board have a business manager for school financial management, but also discuss relevant information. The impact of the governor's role in the school ensures that the budget is monitored effectively through regular review. Termly reports are given at our virtual meetings.

Governor Visits

Governors are required to visit the school regularly to ensure the priorities of the school are evident and to understand more effectively the key issues on the SIP. A visit is reported back to governing body meetings for discussion including staff recruitment and performance. Governors bring a variety of expertise to the school and this helps to ensure the school is moving forward. The compliance officer and business manager attend the school weekly and give reports for the governing body to review, but all governors have received virtual tours whilst building works was being carried out, then by physical visits when it was nearly completed.

Training

Governors attend a variety of training to enable them to perform their roles effectively, Covid 19 has affected the training process at present. As a short-term solution, online training has been completed and is ongoing.

Attendance

Governor attendance is good, and any absences are explained and accepted by the governing body. There is a good level of commitment shown by all members of the governing body. Due to the many changes required, meetings have been taking place monthly but, from January 2021 will be termly.

Review

The local governing board annually performs a skills audit of its members and an annual self-evaluation which a report is collated and shared with the governing board. Annual appraisals are held of each governor including the chair and headmistress to identify areas that need to be strengthened.

Our Plans for 2020/2021

As identified in the SIP, our focus for the strategic development of the school will be:-

- To ensure progress is in line with National expectations in Reading, Writing & Maths
- To improve the quality of teaching and learning so that 100% of teaching is good or better
- To ensure an engaging relevant curriculum that supports children's personal development
- To promote a positive behaviour and attitude
- To assure staff, students and parents of a progressive environment
- To raise standards of leadership and meet the standards required

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Rev. Nicola Harwood, via the school office or the school's website.