

Governance Statement – July 2016

It is good practice for the board to publish an annual governance statement to explain how it has fulfilled its responsibilities – particularly in relation to its core functions (see below), including:

- *the governance arrangements that are in place, including the remit of any committees;*
- *the attendance record of individual governors at board and committee meetings; and*
- *an assessment of the effectiveness and impact of the board and any committees with details of any particular challenges that have arisen.*

The publication of a governance statement is not mandatory, but it is regarded by the ECA as good practice and an effective way for governors to demonstrate that their accountability to parents, at least annually. This will be published on our website.

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Christ Church Primary School July 2016	
In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Christ Church School Governing Body are:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; 2. Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent. 	
Governance arrangements	<p>The Governing Body of Christ Church Primary School was re-constituted in 2014 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 2 Foundation Governors and 3 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body two of the Co-opted governors are parents one working as an actuary and the other as a facilitator, trainer and executive coach; and one is Managing Director of a local business, AB Dynamics.</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets at least once each term and we also have sub-groups to carry out specific delegated functions by the Governing Body. This includes a Finance group, an Academies Working Party, a Pay Panel, a Performance Management committee and other adhoc groups formed as required. We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.</p> <p>See p3 for a list of Governors.</p>

<p>Attendance record of governors</p>	<p>Governors have good attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See p4 for details of individual governors’ attendance at meetings.</p>
<p>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</p>	<p>The Governing Body has had a busy year focusing on school improvement, the expansion of the school to accommodate a temporary bulge in numbers in 2017, the recruitment and induction of 5 new governors (in effect half the team) and re-opening discussion on multi-academy trust status.</p> <p>The School Improvement Portfolio holder has led 2 Learning Walks accompanied by other Governors, triangulating evidence to monitor implementation of the school’s top 3 improvement priorities. She has also met 3 x in the year to discuss key data on pupil progress, including those of disadvantaged groups and reported back to the FGB at key milestones. A new priority identified for 2016-17 is greater parental outreach to improve the progress of disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>The Finance Portfolio holder has met with the school to agree the budget, review school finances and monitor school funds. Quarterly reports are made to the FGB. Recommendations to improve the way Governors carry out its remit with regard to strategic oversight and financial decision-making have been identified in line with recent guidance. Thanks to careful financial management and strategic planning, the school is in a good place in regard to absorbing additional costs from changes in pensions, National Insurance contributions and incremental rises. For now our staffing model has not been adversely affected by our leaner budget.</p> <p>Tony Green is our Health and Safety Associate Governor and he carries out termly checks of the premises, reporting to FGB by exception. Governors remain vigilant around safeguarding and we have a Nominated Governor for Safeguarding (Rev Ann Keating) who meets with the Inclusion Team and receives reports by exception on any safeguarding matters of concern for the FGB. We have also appointed a new SEN Governor who will take up the post in September.</p> <p>In the Spring term, the FGB took the decision to temporarily breach our PAN to 75 in 2017-18 and 2018-19 to accommodate a projected increased need for school places in our catchment. This has given us an opportunity to review the school site and optimise use of Section 106 funding to improve our facilities. We are pleased to have agreed a new building to accommodate the additional pupils; current plans for its use include designation of new classrooms, and various meeting spaces for parental engagement activities, training purposes or teaching and learning.</p> <p>One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered and updated our Child Protection Policy. As a school we have an effective system for regularly reviewing policies and procedures on a scheduled annual or biennial basis.</p>

	<p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – you can either find them on the Governors’ page of our website or you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>The Governing Body is looking forward to the opening of a new building in September 2016 and will begin advertising the additional school spaces that will become available in 2017-18 soon.</p> <p>Priorities for the Autumn term will include the review of our SEN provision, an evaluation of our Pupil Premium spend and Sports funding.</p> <p>We are pleased to announce the new Chair elect is Mr Tim Rogers who replaces Catherine Mayhew. Mrs Mayhew served as Chair of Governors for 3 years and as a Governor for 6 years and has helped establish a professional and effective culture of support and challenge at Board level.</p> <p>We also look forward to welcoming new Foundation Governor, Sabine Purshouse, a retiring teacher and to the appointment of a new co-opted Governor to join the team. The Governors will continue to monitor our financial position carefully, to ensure standards and the quality of education remain at the heart of decision-making as we examine strategic options to secure the school’s future.</p> <p>We are particularly pleased with our performance in the new KS2 SATS. It demonstrates the effectiveness of changes we introduced to our curriculum in 2013 and our robust approach to monitoring children’s progress. There have also been pleasing outcomes for early years and KS1 with the school achieving way above average national attainment. In a year of tremendous change in primary school assessment, it is a credit to the leadership of the school and the commitment of the teaching staff that such high standards have been maintained throughout the school.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the new Chair of Governors, Mr Tim Rogers via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.</p>

Christ Church Primary School Governing Body 2015-16

Governor	Category	Term of office expiry date
Catherine Mayhew (Chair)	Co-Opted Governor	30/11/2018
Wendy Hiscock (Vice-Chair) (School Improvement Portfolio)	LA Governor	30/11/2018
Tim Rogers (Finance Portfolio)	Co-Opted Governor	30/11/2018
Krista Bondy (Academies Working Party Lead)	Parent Governor	26/04/2020
Isobel Griffiths (SEN nominated Governor) (Curriculum Portfolio)	Co-Opted Governor	01/03/2020
Neil Baker (Head Teacher)	Staff Governor	Ex officio
Gordon Taylor	Parent Governor	26/04/2020
Jonathon Douglas/ Leigh Matthews	Staff Governor	30/09/2016
Judith Hughes	Foundation Governor	Resigned 26/04/2016
Rev Ann Keating (Safeguarding nominated Governor)	Foundation Governor	19/03/2018
Bev Appleton	Co-Opted Governor	Resigned 12/01/2016
Helen Roberts*	Parent Governor	Resigned 26/04/2016
Sarah Fleming*	Parent Governor	Resigned 01/03/2016

* Appointed Associate Governors. Helen Roberts to assist FGB with communications plan; Sarah Fleming to continue to lead implementation of School Travel Plan (STP).

Christ Church Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2015-16

Name	Type	WED 23rd SEPT	WED 11th NOV	TUE 12th JAN	TUE 2nd FEB	TUE 1st MAR	TUE 26th APR	MON 6th JUN	MON 7th JUL	NOTES
Catherine Mayhew	Co-opted									Chair
Bev Appleton	Co-opted		Last Mtg	Resigned						
Helen Roberts	Parent					Last Mtg	Resigned			
Sarah Fleming	Parent					Resigned				
Judith Hughes	Foundation					Last Mtg	Resigned			
Isobel Griffiths	Co-opted					Appointed				
Tim Rogers	Co-opted									
Neil Baker	Ex-officio									Headteacher
Leigh Matthews / Jonathan Douglass	Staff									Shared role
Wendy Hiscock	LA									Vice Chair
Gordon Taylor	Parent						Appointed			
Krista Bondy	Parent						Appointed			
Ann Keating	Foundation									

Key

Attended
Apologies

