

Christ Church CE VC Primary School

Governors Annual Statement

The Governors are pleased to present their Annual Statement. We are a group of volunteers made up of parents and teachers from Christ Church School and people from the local community. We are all proud to be associated with the Christ Church School. We are always impressed by the excellent behaviour of the children and the high standards of teaching and learning achieved throughout the School.

We are thrilled to welcome two new teaching governors to the Governing Body – Miss Howick (Year 6) and Mrs Robinson (Foundation). We also thank Mrs Matthews (Year 3) and Mr Douglass (Year 5) who both completed their term as teaching governors last Summer. Their contributions were well received and appreciated – thank you and well done!

We summarise below key headlines from over the last year where we have been working with the School.

Ofsted Inspection

As you will know, the School had an Ofsted inspection on 20 November 2018 and the Governors were part of that inspection process. We met with the inspector and had feedback from the inspector on the performance of the School. We were very pleased with the findings. The School continues to be good and the inspector's report highlights many positives. The School has a rich curriculum and "pupils are welcoming and polite". Reading remains a "strength"; we are sure that this in part is because the children are so well supported at home. The approach to safeguarding is "conscientious" and staff are "meticulous in their record keeping".

All of that said, there are also points to work on. More work is to be done to ensure that disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs are provided with the right level of guidance and the most able pupils are routinely challenged to achieve the highest standards.

Data

The governors meet regularly with school leaders to evaluate pupil performance. We are pleased that our results at the end of Key Stage 1 in Reading, Writing and Maths are consistently above those nationally. Similarly results at Key Stage 2 in Reading, Writing and Maths exceed national outcomes. We congratulate the children and staff on all their hard work which has been rewarded with these pleasing outcomes.

Travel Plan

Following a number of meetings between the School and Wiltshire County Council, the Council agreed to undertake a further study in support of a safer crossing on the Bath Road. The study identified 2 options for the School to consider; these were discussed at a Full Governing Body meeting and a "pelican crossing" was selected as the best solution. The crossing will be completed in 3 years' time following further studies and design work. The travel plan will be updated to reflect this development and the other work that has been undertaken.

School Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

A new SIAMS Inspection Framework came into force in 2018 and the Rev. Ann and Mrs Hann-Perkins attended several training sessions run by the Diocese of Salisbury. The School is revisiting its vision and values in the light of this new framework.

How we work

The Governing Body supports and challenges the School and is often described as a school's "critical friend". More specifically, the attached Appendix sets out the core strategic functions of the Governing Body. In order to achieve all of this, the Governing Body is sub divided into three committees, namely:

- School Improvement
- Finance
- Well Being

We have regular meetings with Mr Baker, Mrs Hann-Perkins and other members of staff as appropriate. We also visit classrooms, talk to the children and see their work. The children are always so proud to show us what they have been doing!

We meet as a Full Governing Body every term, ie 6 times throughout the academic year. Each governor volunteers in order to make a positive contribution to the School and help achieve the best for the children.

Supporting the Governing Body

The Governing Body is looking to co-opt new governors. We are seeking individuals who are able to use their skills and knowledge to make an active contribution to the effective governance of the school. We are interested in people from a full range of backgrounds, including the private and the public sector, education, business, technology and finance. Being able to work in a team will be essential. If this is something that would be of interest to you, we would be delighted to hear from you (please email Clerk@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk)

Being a governor is a commitment and we appreciate it is not feasible for everyone. However, if you would like to support the governing body in some other way, such as working on a specific project or offering your skills on an ad-hoc basis, we would also be delighted to hear from you.

With very best wishes

The Governing Body of Christ Church CE VC Primary School

Core Strategic Functions of the Governing Body

The governing board has the following core strategic functions:

Establishing the strategic direction, by:

- Setting the vision, values, and objectives for the school
- Agreeing the school improvement strategy with priorities and targets
- Meeting statutory duties

Ensuring accountability, by:

- Appointing the headteacher
- Monitoring progress towards targets
- Performance managing the headteacher
- Engaging with stakeholders
- Contributing to school self-evaluation

Ensuring financial probity, by:

- Setting the budget
- Monitoring spending against the budget
- Ensuring value for money is obtained
- Ensuring risks to the organisation are managed