

## **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019**

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In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the governing body are:

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

### **About our school**

The school is located in the village of Perranwell Station, half-way between Truro and Falmouth.

The school has 153 pupils on roll, split into 6 classes. We have one headteacher, seven teachers (including the deputy headteacher and assistant headteacher ) and 9 teaching support staff , 3 admin staff and 2 catering staff.

The school no longer publishes a separate prospectus as all the information previously in that document is now available on the website.

The previous Ofsted inspection graded the school as "good".

### **Governing body constitution**

The governing body comprises six governors co-opted from the local community, one governor appointed by the local authority, three elected parent governors, the headteacher and one other member of staff governor elected by the staff.

Governors co-opted from the community 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.

In order to assist its work, the governing body may also appoint associate member. Currently, the governors have one associate member.

### **Attendance**

Governors' attendance at meetings is of an excellently high standard. Governors also attend training sessions and undertake visits to the school to observe its work.

Governor meetings are always quorate, that is, the necessary number of governors is present to ensure that decisions are valid.

You can see the full list of governors, their attendance at meetings and declarations of interest, on the school's website.

### **Governing body structure**

The full governing body meets four times a year. We also have two main committees that meet once per half-term. One committee deals with curriculum business; the other deals with finance, personnel and premises.

Meetings of the full governing body and committee meetings are clerked by our professional clerk.

Minutes of governors' meetings are available from the school office on request.

### **Effectiveness and impact of the governing body**

The governing body believes it works competently and effectively. All members take part in a skills audit biennially, to inform a rolling development plan and ensure it continues to have an appropriate level of competency.

The school has a dynamic headteacher who, together with her senior leadership team, heads an excellent team of teachers and support staff.

The governing body has consistently expressed its aspirations for the school and has actively supported the headteacher in introducing many innovations.

Much hard work has resulted in significant improvements in the teaching and ethos of the school. Attendance and behaviour have been given particular attention, but most attention has been given to improving the rate of progress of all children and identifying and removing barriers to learning. The governors spend considerable time examining key data on the results of pupil achievement and progress, so that they can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its ambitious targets for all pupils.

The governors carefully monitor target pupil groups, including disadvantaged children, and examine how the Pupil Premium and Sports Premium grants are best spent. They have assessed the impact these grants have had on outcomes. Financial reports on both these matters can be seen on the school's website.

Governors carefully scrutinise the use of the school budget and ensure that the school spends wisely, keeping reserves above the minimum level set by its Reserves Policy. This has enabled the school to manage fluctuations in funding effectively.

One governor has responsibility for Health and Safety and, with the headteacher and a team of pupils, carries out regular checks of the premises.

Another important role for governors is ensuring the safety and well-being of the children. The headteacher and the nominated governor for Safeguarding report to each meeting of the governing body on any Safeguarding matters.

Governors regularly review and agree all school policies, which are all up to date.

Minutes of governing body meetings are public documents and you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.

### **Governance action plan/key objectives for the future**

The key objectives for the school are in the School Improvement Plan, which can be found on the school's website.

The governing body also sets itself objectives. The report on the performance of the governing body can also be found on the school's website.

### **Contact us**

Perran-ar-Worthal School Governors welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. You can contact the chair of governors, Mrs Val Royston, via the school office or on email [chair@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:chair@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk)

