



## Governing Body Annual Statement 2021

At Hunslet Moor Primary School, we recognise the importance of identifying and demonstrating the impact of our governance. We hope this statement is useful in sharing the work of the governors and their contribution to and impact on school improvement and development.

### Who are we?

The governing board includes parents, staff, and members of the local community. You can view the current list of governors [here](#).

### Why are we here?

The governing board has the strategic responsibility for the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and the policies of the Leeds Local Authority. The governing board meets as a whole board a minimum of four times a year.

### What is our Role?

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Co-Head Teachers 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.

You can find out more about how we do this below.

### How do we do this?

The governors report on the objectives through the Teaching and Learning (T&L) Committee, Pupil Support (PS) Committee and Resources (Rs) Committee. The governors visit the school regularly and report on the progress made towards the school development plan priorities. Over the year governors will undertake a number of activities in order to monitor progress, these include:

- Visiting the school to see the work that is being undertaken to achieve the objectives outlined in the School Development Plan
- Conducting surveys of pupils, parents and staff
- Inviting members of the SLT to meetings to report on and discuss key areas

### How are we supported and developed?

The governors and school are supported by external advisors who provide an outside view of the performance and report on our strengths and areas for improvement. Actions plans are part of development for all of us. We undertake a wide range of training to help us carry out our roles, in the past year the governors have had development in Early Years, Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment and more.

### How do I join?

We regularly review our skills and recruit governors who can further add to our work at Hunslet Moor. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please do not hesitate to get in touch through the [school office](#) who will pass your information on.

## **What we have done this year:**

### **Pupil Support Committee**

The Pupil Support Committee exists to support our pupils. The committee oversees policies and procedures that are in place to ensure every pupil has the best possible experience here at Hunslet Moor. While other committees focus on the day to day learning (academic), this committee will focus on the health and wellbeing of our pupils, by ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all. The committee will also receive regular updates from our Pastoral and SEND teams to ensure our most vulnerable children and families are supported and given any additional resources they need. Pupil Support will also ensure that additional funding is targeted correctly and that the outcomes of those children in receipt are the best possible outcomes for them. During this difficult period (Covid), the Pupil Support Committee has overseen changes to how our children and families are supported by ensuring all children have access to resources to enable them to receive an inclusive education. A Remote Working policy was created and the following was provided where required:

- Access to I.T equipment
- Food Hampers
- Vouchers
- Work Packs
- Signposting to external resources

Our dedicated pastoral team continue to offer fantastic emotional and wellbeing support to our children and families. Committee members were able to meet regularly remotely with key staff members to receive real time updates on the ever changing situation.

### **Teaching and Learning Committee**

It has been a very unusual year for the teaching and learning of our children. The Teaching and Learning Committee would usually review the progress and attainment of our children based on phonics, SATs and other tests however due to Covid there had been no SATs or end of year data. Instead pupils were assessed by school and all parents received a pupil report at the end of the academic year.

Phonics is an important focus for the school and the whole school training programme was shared with the committee to monitor showing that all staff attend fortnightly training led by the phonics lead and other skilled practitioners in school.

Following the re-opening of school we had an initial focus on welcoming pupils back into school, setting high expectations for standards and behaviour, supporting health and wellbeing through THRIVE and PSHE, tailoring the curriculum to support teaching of core learning in English and Maths and ensuring a strong sequence of learning over time and within each lesson ensuring that lesson objectives are focussed on knowledge and skills. It is important for children to have their needs met, feel safe and feel special when they return to school. It is important that the feelings of loss due to the school closure are acknowledged. There are different layers and levels of support to be offered to our children.

Understandably a big focus for the teaching and learning committee this year has been to monitor the online learning curriculum including our ongoing contingency plan for providing remote education. The committee received a briefing from the Assistant Head leading this work and were assured of the high quality and robustness of the provision offered to children during various lockdowns.

### **Resources Committee**

During the last year the resources committee has continued to meet remotely at least termly to oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure its money is well spent. We do this by planning in great detail the income and expenditure school receives. For example, this year extra costs were incurred and extra funds have been allocated

for Covid to cover for example hand wash, thermometers, extra paper towels. School also received catch-up funding to support lost learning due to Covid and as a committee we worked with the Head Teachers to agree when and how to spend the funding as well as monitoring the impact of the interventions. We also look closely at how and where sports premium and pupil premium is spent and again what impact it had.

In addition to the budgetary responsibility of the committee we spend time on:

- Staffing matters including a review of teachers performance management
- Recruitment of new staff
- The health and wellbeing of the whole staff team
- Educational visits including the residential trip
- Updates to the school premises which this year included KS2 toilet refurbishments

Ofsted requirements – Our last inspection by Ofsted was in November 2018. The inspector confirmed that the school continues to be good, and that ***“Leaders have worked relentlessly and have successfully transformed the school since the last inspection”*** and ***“The governors provide a strong strategic direction and oversight.”*** The full inspection report can be found [here](#).

### **Performance Management Committee**

The governing body is responsible for the performance management of both Head Teachers. Together we set targets which are closely aligned to the school development plan and review the progress towards these targets throughout the year, with

#### **A brief statement from the Chair of Governors.**

As a group of governors we have conducted most of our business virtually this year. The co-Head Teachers and staff have worked tirelessly to complete risk assessments and put procedures in place to minimise the risk for pupils and staff in school throughout the pandemic. We also thank our families and children who have played their part, whether they were key worker children in school or those who had to stay at home during lockdown.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic the Governing Body has continued to carry out its duties to hold the Head Teachers and school to account, to challenge and support, to be involved in strategic planning, offer direction and to manage school resources. As a group of governors we want to be inclusive and value the contribution of all members. We strive to continue to build a strong and cohesive team that has a clear shared vision with the school, understands data and ensures that we have the interests of the pupils at Hunslet Moor at the centre of our decisions and actions.

As a school we want to provide a safe environment for pupils to thrive, a place where they are encouraged to recognise and achieve their full potential. We are committed to our community becoming a high achieving community that will meet the needs of all pupils and their parents.

We are committed to working closely with the Head Teachers and the staff team. One way we do this is by each governor having one or more areas of the curriculum that they are responsible for monitoring. This link governor arrangement assists us in assessing how well the school is performing. Under normal circumstances we ensure frequent visits to see the teaching and learning in action and to meet with key members of staff.

[Please select this link if you would like to find out more about us and our role as Hunslet Moor Primary School governors, please take a look at our profiles. Or for our contact information if you have something you wish to bring to a Governor’s attention, there are several ways you can get in touch.](#)