

Newton Solney Infant School

Governors Annual Statement 2016-2017

The roles of the Governing Body of Newton Solney Infant School are

1. To ensure a clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school.
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational achievement of the pupils at the school
3. To oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Governing body is made up of 12 Governors:

Staff Governonrs

Mrs Heidi Elks (Headteacher)

Mrs Davinia Gamble

Parent Governors

Mrs Andrea Reay (Vice Chair)

Mrs Karen Wood

Local Authority Governor

Mr Matt Tyler (Chair)

Foundation Governors

Mrs Jo Ballington

Mrs Catherine Eastwood

Rev'd Martin Flowerdew (Ex Officio)

Mrs Chris Freestone

Mr Elwyn Rees-Jones

Mrs Cathy Russell

Mrs Jane Thompson

The full governing body meets twice each term. There are five subcommittees which meet separately to consider particular aspects of the schools organisation and performance. They are

Resources – to set the staffing and the school budget

Mrs Catherine Eastwood

Mrs Heidi Elks

Mrs Chris Freestone

Mr Elwyn Rees-Jones

Mrs Jane Thompson

Teaching and Learning – to look at the effectiveness of teaching and the performance of the pupils

Mrs Jo Ballington

Mrs Davinia Gamble

Rev'd Martin Flowerdew

Mrs Andrea Reay

Mrs Cathy Russell

Mrs Karen Wood

Performance Management – to set and monitor the the headteachers objectives.

Mr Matt Tyler

Mrs Jane Thompson

Mr Elwyn Rees-Jones

Health and Safety – to ensure that the health and safety risks are well managed in school.

Mrs Jo Ballington

Mrs Heidi Elks

SEN and Safeguarding – to oversee the arrangements for pupils with special needs and to ensure the pupils are safe in school

Mrs Heidi Elks

Mrs Jane Thompson

What do we as governors do

We have a strategic role within the school. We are not involved in the day to day management of the school this is the responsibility of the Headteacher and her staff. We are expected to play the part of a 'critical friend' . This means striking the right balance between challenge and support. In this role we question and suggest refinements to the proposals and policies of the school. We are involved in appointing staff and dealing with any matters which could involve appeals and we are responsible for the school budget. We keep abreast of current developments in education through the Derbyshire County Council governor training briefings. We have also completed a skills audit within the governing body and ensured that governors are allocated to appropriate committees.

Work done by the governors in 2015/16

We have been involved in the setting of the school improvement plan which focuses on the further development of good teaching in the school, increasing the level of challenge for the more able in lessons and working towards the Artsmark award.

The parents' questionnaire has been reviewed. As a result of the responses pupil targets are to be made more explicit in the parent consultations.

The school hall was reroofed over the summer holidays. This work was completed on time and in budget.

We continue to monitor school attendance at each of our full governor meetings.

The teaching and learning committee have been monitoring the introduction of a new assessment system. This has proved to be most successful as it has enabled pupils to see more clearly what they need to do to improve. They have also reviewed pupil scrapbooks which record their planning ideas – these are then used by staff to help plan future lessons. Pupil progress data has also been monitored at both committee and full governor meetings.

The resources committee has set the school budget and monitored projected pupil numbers.

We have reviewed safeguarding issues in the school

All committees have read and approved a wide range of school policies.

How to contact us

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. If you wish to contact us then please use the following email address.

governors@newtonsolney.derbyshire.sch.uk