

Newton Solney Infant School

Governors Annual Statement 2020/2021

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

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

The Governing body :-

Staff Governors

Mrs Heidi Elks (Headteacher)

Mrs Davinia Gamble

Parent Governors

Mrs Jessica Tomlinson

Mrs Helen Stewart

Dr Hodges

Local Authority

Mrs Keri Chambers

Foundation Governors

Rev'd Martin Flowerdew (Ex Officio)

Mrs Jane Thompson - Chair of Governors

Mrs Jaide Meyrick

Mrs Cathy Russell

Mrs Mary Norman

Mrs Catherine Eastwood

Father Neil Roberts

The full Governing Body meets twice each term - six times a year. There are five subcommittees which meet separately to consider particular aspects of the School's organisation and performance. They are:

Resources - to set the staffing and the school budget.

Mrs Heidi Elks

Mrs Jane Thompson

Mrs Cathy Russell

Mrs Catherine Eastwood

Mrs Jaide Meyrick

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

Mrs Davinia Gamble
Rev'd Martin Flowerdew
Mrs Jessica Tomlinson
Mrs Mary Norman

Performance Management – to set and monitor the headteachers objectives.

Mrs Jane Thompson
Mrs Jaide Meyrick

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

Mrs Heidi Elks
Mrs Mary Norman

SEND and Safeguarding – to oversee the arrangements for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and to ensure that all pupils are safe in school.

Mrs Heidi Elks
Mrs Jane Thompson
Mrs Jaide Meyrick

What we do as Governors;

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..

Work done by the governors in 2020/2021

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is our number one priority and is an agenda item at every meeting of the full governing body.

Parent Questionnaire

Questionnaire responses were reviewed and analysed and the information was shared with staff. There was a high rate of response and it was overwhelmingly positive.

Monitor Attendance

We continue to monitor attendance and the Headteacher reports on attendance at each meeting of the full governing body. We discourage children being taken out of school for holidays, as we understand that attendance is one of the main factors affecting pupil progress.

Covid 19

Governors have not been able to visit school as much as normal recently, due to restrictions around Covid-19, but we are planning to resume visits as soon as possible. Meetings have continued online. The Headteacher has kept us informed of issues arising from lockdowns and homeschooling and the plans school have put in place.

Budget

The Resources Committee has set the school budget and monitored projected pupil numbers.

Phonics training

Phonics has been, and continues to be, a focus in school. Results of research and new plans have been shared with governors.

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.

info@newtonsolney.derbyshire.sch.uk

10th September 2021