

Newton Solney C of E Infant School

Governors Annual Statement 2021/22

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. To hold the Headteacher to account for the educational achievement of the pupils at the school
3. To oversee the financial performance of the school and to ensure money is well spent.

The Governing body is made up of 12 Governors:

Staff Governors

Mrs Heidi Elks (Headteacher)

Mrs Davinia Gamble

Parent Governors

Ms Emma McHugh

Mrs Jessica Tomlinson

Local Authority

Ms Kerrie Chambers

Foundation Governors

Rev'd Martin Flowerdew (Ex Officio)

Mrs Jane Thompson - Joint Chair of Governors

Mrs Jaide Meyrick - Joint Chair of Governors

Mrs Cathy Russell

Mrs Mary Norman

Mr Martin Duke

1 vacancy

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 Heidi Elks

Mrs Jane Thompson

Mrs Cathy Russell

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 Thomlinson

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

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

Mrs Jaide Meyrick

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 2021/2022

- Safeguarding
- Parent Questionnaire
- Monitor Attendance
- Covid 19
- Budget
- School Improvement Plan
- Phonics training
- School Buildings Maintenance

We have reviewed safeguarding issues in the school.

The parents' questionnaire has been reviewed, with very positive results. As a result of the responses, we are investigating the possibilities of before school care, although recognise this is difficult in a school of our size.

Attendance has been monitored; this was found to be lower than pre-Covid but is now recovering to expected levels.

We recognise that there are ongoing issues surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, including school closure during November 2021. We will continue to follow government and local guidelines.

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

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.

Phonics has been, and continues to be, a focus in school. We have received detailed information on the new Phonics scheme, which is being implemented in school.

The new Pre-School building has been completed and preschool pupils are enjoying their new surroundings. School facilities continue to be updated; this year we replaced pupil toilets.

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