



## **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020-21**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Barrington CofE (VC) Primary School throughout the course of the 2020-21 academic year.

### **Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance**

The Instrument of Government for Barrington CofE (VC) Primary School allows for 12 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 11, with 1 vacancy that the Governing Body continues to work hard to recruit to.

During the of the 2020-2021 Academic Year we have successfully recruited two new governors to replace two governors who have left the Governing Body.

Over the course of the 2020-21 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Helen Copley.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Mrs Wendy Harrison, as Clerk to Governors.

Over the course of the year, Governors at Barrington CofE (VC) Primary School have demonstrated an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work. Due to COVID-19 restrictions all meetings have been held remotely but this has not affected the effectiveness of the governing body. Further information about governor attendance can be found on the school website.

### **The Structure of Governance**

As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, Barrington CofE (VC) Primary School also has two committees, in order to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage.

The school names these committees as:

- Business Committee – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, Health and Safety, Premises and
- Education Committee – which mainly deals with the curriculum, assessment and data, SEND and Pupil Premium expenditure and impact

Both committees and the Governing Body overall have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility.



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In addition to the above, the school also constitutes Headteacher Performance Management Panel annually.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

### **Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Supporting the school's Risk Assessment with regard to Covid-19 and enabling the safe return to school for children and adults alike
- Receiving updates from the Headteacher to inform their work in response to the pandemic, in order to ensure the continued education and safety of all children.
- Overseeing updates with regard to the progress made against the School Development Plan.
- Agreed the school's application for growth funding to support the setup of an additional KS1 class for the academic year 2021-2022.

### **Impact of the work of the Business Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Business Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Ensuring that the Catch-Up Premium is targeted effectively to provide optimum impact upon children's learning and recovery
- Discussing how best to structure the school's staffing and classes in future; in particular relating to the planned expansion of Key Stage 1 from two classes to three classes in 2021-2022.
- Budgetary constraints for small schools in Cambridgeshire are significant and we have ensured a balanced budget was set for 2021-2022

### **Impact of the work of the Education Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Education Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Ensuring that children have been able to engage in remote learning with access to suitable devices
- Ensuring that school leaders have adapted the school's curriculum to accommodate children's lost learning over the course of the pandemic



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- Ensuring that the school has adopted an updated curriculum approach towards teaching children about relationships and sex education, aligned to changes in Government expectations
- Ensuring that the Mental health of students and everyone working in school is a key priority.

### **Governor Training**

Governors work is collectively, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- Safeguarding – in order to effectively fulfil our duties in quality assuring the safeguarding arrangements for all children at Model Primary School.
- LA Briefings – in order to remain up to date with latest Local Authority information regarding the approaches towards safe school reopening
- Improving Outcomes for Disadvantaged Pupils – in order to ensure that we effectively monitor progress and attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.
- HTPM – to ensure governors are trained and up to date with the current head teacher performance management process.
- NGA Leading governance training – the chair has completed the nationally accredited chairs development course.

### **Governor Monitoring**

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the curriculum).

Throughout the course of this year, Governors have undertaken particular monitoring in relation to;

- Safeguarding
- Premises, Health and Safety
- Remote Learning
- Outdoor Learning
- Phonics and Reading

### **Forward Planning**

Following the above impact of 2020-2021, the Governing Body looks forward to returning to a more “normal” structure to its work in the forthcoming academic year. This will include;



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- Ensuring that the school effectively uses the resources available to enable our students to return to school in a safe and positive learning environment in the post COVID world.
- Providing continued oversight regarding the impact of expenditure upon children's outcomes.
- Supporting the school with the increase in size to three KS1 classes.
- Ensure that our Christian values are promoted and are at the core of everything we do in school.

### **Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at:  
<https://www.barrington.cambs.sch.uk>

This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to [chair@barrington.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@barrington.cambs.sch.uk) regarding the work of the Governing Body.