

Walford Nursery & Primary School Board of Governors
Chair of Governors Impact Statement
Wednesday 20th March 2024

Introduction

The Governors are very keen to ensure that parents and carers are kept informed of the work of the board of governors. On the school website, under the **Governor's** banner, please take time to read through the '**The Governance, Strategic Leadership and Planning Document - 2023**'. This sets the scene in relation to how the governing board meetings and committees are structured and organised, and the important work which is undertaken by the governing board.

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. He updated the Governors on his visits to the school. All was working well. The new Year 6 classroom will be ready very soon.
2. The Governors received updated reports from the Headteacher and Chairs of Committees. A **summary** of the main items discussed were as follows:

A. School Business Committee

- i) The next committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, 8th May 2024.
- ii) There was an update on the new classroom and governors visited the room at the end of the meeting. The classroom will be utilised after the Easter break. Discussions had also taken place with two families in relation to their wonderful contributions to the local community. As each had evidenced kindness, help and support to others, their views will be sought in relation to naming the new classroom and the art / music space in their honour.
- iii) The refurbishment and the tarmac staff parking area at the back of the school had been completed. This will provide additional car parking for staff, alleviating some parking issues at the beginning and end of the school day.
- iv) There was an update on Sports Premium and Pupil Premium. No concerns were noted. Paul will review Pupil Premium and Emily will review SEND arrangements on Thursday, 21st March. A report will be provided at the next governors meeting.
- v) Health and safety issues regarding school premises were being reviewed and monitored on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. The Governors will be reviewing security, including CCTV and signage of the school site in the summer term.
- vi) The Chair of the School Business Committee reported that all was well with the school budget and finances. The School Financial Value Standard (SFVS) statement was considered by the committee and finalised. The deadline for the SFVS completion is 31st March 2024. A completed draft of the SFVS document had been circulated to all governors for their consideration prior to the full governors meeting. The Chair reported that SFVS was a very useful assurance mechanism for the governors, ensuring that the school achieved a very good level of financial health/resource management. There were six key areas of activity for reporting by

the governors which included sections on: Governance; School's Strategy; Setting the Annual Budget; Staffing; Value for Money and Protecting Public Money. It was thought to be useful to discuss key areas and provide relevant detailed evidence. At the meeting and after relevant discussion, the document was unanimously approved. The Chair thanked Charlie, the HT and Deputy HT for their valuable input regarding the completion of the SFVS document.

vii) The Chair thanked Charlie for his update and the committee for their work. He also thanked the HT for her written report for the School Business Committee and for the excellent work being undertaken by all staff to support pupils at the school.

B. Pupils, Personnel and Community Committee

i) The committee meeting took place on Wednesday, 20th March 2024.

ii) The HT provided a very useful update as part of her report. The report included detailed information on personnel, safeguarding, attendance, pupil behaviour, equalities, parental engagement and community cohesion.

iii) Reporting/Reviewing of pupil attendance was rigorous with robust follow up in place by HT and staff who are addressing any issues of concern.

iv) A new member of the team would be joining the front office as Administrative Assistant.

v) The HT was thanked for her report and for all of the support given to staff and pupils, which was greatly appreciated.

C. Standards Teaching and Learning Committee

i) The next committee meeting would be taking place on Thursday, 9th July 2024 when a review of writing, maths, computing, history and PE will take place.

ii) The HT reported that the current attendance figures for the school was 96.8%, compared to the national figure of 94.6%. There was a useful update from the LA Attendance Officer.

iii) A detailed report of key achievements and competition winners from local, regional and national competitions were outlined in the HT's report. There were many outstanding achievements reported. Governors congratulated all involved. Results will be reported to parents and carers in the school newsletter.

iv) School visits and learning outside the classroom was discussed. The school offered an excellent range of opportunities and it had proved to be an excellent year for all pupils.

v) There would be an update of SEND provision and Pupil Premium for the next meeting. A date had been fixed for Paul and Emily to undertake the reviews. No issues of concern from the school perspective was noted. There were also no issues concern noted regarding sports premium.

vi) The committee had reviewed all of the activities in relation to the curriculum which were excellent. The training of staff for maths, computing, subject leader, mental health and wellbeing, safeguarding, SEND, school to school support and INSET was also noted.

vii) Pupil assessment and tracking was all in place. No issues of concern were noted.

viii) The HT was thanked for her report and for the excellent work being undertaken by all staff to support pupils at the school.

3. The Governors also updated their involvement in the **Committees and Panels** and dates of meetings were agreed. The DHT will update the website in relation to new governors and their information and declarations of personal and business interests.

4. All is working well as far as the **School Nursery** is concerned. Funding will be reported separately as a budget heading. The budget, pupil numbers and staffing are also reviewed regularly and there were no issues of concern raised.

5. The Headteacher updated governors on the **School Development Plan (SDP)**. The SDP is reviewed termly by the Vice Chair of Governors who then reports back to all governors. No issues of concern were raised or noted and all priorities were on track for successful completion.

The Vice Chair as Governor Lead for Safeguarding reported that there were no safeguarding concerns. Governors will review/update safeguarding training early next term.

6. There was a discussion regarding **Governor Training and Development**. Governors receive useful information and briefings from the Local Authority, Herefordshire Governor's Association, the National College, the National Governance Association (NGA) magazine and weekly briefings. The Clerk also advises governors of any local training courses available to them. 'Bitesize' training is available from the NGA. Governors will review/update safeguarding training early next term.

7. The **Parent, Teacher and Friends Association** (PTFA) continues to go from strength-to-strength. It is encouraging to note the support received from parents and carers which is excellent and greatly appreciated by the team. There were on-going discussions regarding what might be undertaken to celebrate Walford Nursery & Primary School 150th celebration as a local school.

8. The Headteacher will report the results of the **Parent/Carer Survey** and the **Staff Survey** later in the year.

9. Governors continue to act as a '**Critical Friend**' to the school. At each meeting, governors offer appropriate 'support and challenge' and make recommendations/decisions as required. There is a professional working relationship between the school and governors/governance.

10. The Chair also thanked the **Clerk to Governors** for ably putting together all of the relevant paperwork in readiness for meetings.

11. The Chair thanked the **Governors** for their input and support which is much appreciated.

12. The Chair finally thanked **Senior Leaders and 'Team Walford'** for their superb work, dedication and commitment throughout the year. This had been a busy term with so much on offer for all pupils. Governors wished to thank the whole team for the excellent work in supporting pupils and for everything undertaken to enhance, enrich and support pupil's education, on a daily basis.

The **Headteacher**, Louise George, continues to be inspirational in relation to the leadership evidenced across the school.

The Governors believe that the school programme and all that had been arranged and organised for pupils throughout the term clearly evidence and support the key message from the school's mission statement of: '**Learning and Enjoyment... Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!**'

Thank you for taking the time to read this report - it is much appreciated.

Paul Deneen OBE JP DL

Chair of the Board of Governors

23rd March 2024

Chair of Governors Meeting with HT and DHT: Pupil Premium.
Thursday, 21st March 2024 at 2pm - Paul Deneen.

1. I attended the school and received a detailed and thoughtful report in relation to pupil premium. The report was very comprehensive and clearly evidenced all was working well.

A summary of my thoughts on the evidence presented are as follows:

2. The data included a breakdown of the model for the Walford Nursery & Primary School **Pupil Premium** which was clearly being made available to support the most vulnerable pupils.

3. The school budget is approximately £45k though the total cost of all the support was estimated between £60 - 70k.

4. There were 26 pupils who were on the Pupil Premium register, three of which receive funding separately through the ePEP system.

5. A complete breakdown of boys and girls from Reception Class to Year 6 receiving support was identified. A complete list of individual support for each pupil was also evidenced.

7. A report on attendance was also reviewed and Pupil Premium school attendance was at 98.2% which was excellent. The overall school data was 96.8% and the national figure was 94.6%.

8. Pupil performance from Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 is also being monitored in maths, reading and writing.

9. A copy of this report will be placed on file with the detailed report attached. This will act as a clear record of the review being undertaken. All information of the website on pupil premium was up-to-date.

CONCLUSION

I was hugely impressed with the detailed report which had a clear breakdown of all of the key aspects involved with the allocation of **Pupil Premium** funding identified.

The report also considered the issue of **Pupil Premium** and its impact on attendance and individual pupil performance. No issues of concern were noted, nor were any identified. I want to place on record my thanks to the HT and DHT for the excellent and comprehensive report and to thank them and all staff for their help in supporting the all of the pupils concerned. Very well done!