

Walford Nursery and Primary School - Impact Statement following Board of Governors Meeting - Wednesday 13th July 2022.

Introduction

The Governors are very keen to ensure that parents/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 '**Walford Governor's - Governance and Strategic Leadership Document**'. 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.

This governors meeting was the final meeting of the academic year and time was taken to reflect upon how the pupils had settled back into school, following COVID 19, though the pandemic continued to impact the school throughout the year. The Headteacher and the staff have given 100% commitment and dedication, supporting every pupil this year. There were a number of impressive opportunities, activities, events, trips and visits which continued to enrich the lives of all pupils despite the ongoing disruption. Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) re-commenced. Pupil results were simply outstanding and were a testament to the ongoing support of all parents/carers working with the school to ensure that each pupil achieved his/her best. As governors, we offered our thanks to the Headteacher, the teachers, all staff and to the pupils for their amazing work and results - very well done and very well deserved!

As governors, we reviewed all school key areas of activity and we do this on a regular basis. A summary of the discussions were as follows:-

1. School Business Committee

- i) The HT reported that there were no issues of concern regarding the school budget which had been approved at the last meeting. The budget continued to be in a healthy position and pupil numbers were excellent, with the new Reception Class intake oversubscribed.
- ii) The Chair had undertaken a Health and Safety Audit which was supported by the Business Manager. A report on the visit has been circulated to all governors. A work programme has been implemented. There were no issues of concern raised. It was noted that the school's Site Manager had been busy repairing a wall in the front car park.
- iii) Staff at Drummonds had contacted the school about undertaking some voluntary work on the site. It was hoped that some outside work would be completed during the summer holidays.
- iv) The HT was thanked for her comprehensive report and for the excellent work being undertaken by all staff to support pupils at the school.

2. Standards Teaching and Learning Committee

- i) Key information and data was provided for the committee. It was noted that there were 199 pupils on roll with 103 girls and 96 boys. The school's average attendance figure was 95.07% which is higher than the national average being 93.7%.

- ii) The HT reported that strategies were in place to raise achievement for all pupils, as well as to ensure there was high quality teaching and learning opportunities across all year groups. There was also a discussion on assessment, tracking and pupil progress and attainment. Subject areas of science, art, geography and RE had been reviewed. Teaching staff delivered excellent presentations on all key areas.
- iii) School visits and learning outside the classroom was also discussed. The school offered a wide range of opportunities and it had proved to be an excellent year for all pupils.
- iv) The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher gave a comprehensive update on key performance data for pupils at the school. This involved pupils at Early Years Foundation Stage, Year 1 Phonics Screening, end of Key Stage 1, Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check and end of Key Stage 2 test results. The results obtained were recognised by the governors as being outstanding and were considered to be a credit to the pupils for their hard work and also showed how hard staff and parents/carers had worked together throughout the year.
- v) Governors also received a copy of an article about the school in relation to the impressive achievement of the NCCE Computing Quality Mark. Walford Nursery & Primary School was one of the first schools to gain the accreditation. Governors wished to extend huge thanks to all involved.
- vi) There had been a curriculum review of the EYFS, Art, Geography, Computing and Science using Ofsted deep dive methodology. Governors had also undertaken 'learning walks' and were updated on the excellent work undertaken in English using The Write Stuff programme (Jane Considine).
- vii) Sports Premium/PE Funding has been utilised effectively (refer to the Sports Premium Statement on the school website for further details). The school had also received generous sponsorship from the Authentic Bread Company for school PE kit.
- viii) The HT was thanked for her comprehensive report and for the excellent work being undertaken by all staff to support pupils at the school.

3. Pupils, Personnel and Community Committee

- i) The HT had provided a very detailed report for this Committee.
- ii) All key issues had been considered in relation to:- Personnel and staffing, safeguarding, pupil well-being and behaviour, attendance, emergency procedures, equalities particularly around 'British Values,' parental engagement and social cohesion.
- iii) The school would be fully staffed for the new term and the HT had, through agreed processes, made some appointments as approved by governors.
- iv) The school had also received feedback on the results of the June 2022 Parent/Carer Survey. The questionnaire had 13 questions covering all key issues. There was the opportunity to provide quantitative as well as qualitative information. The school had received 84 responses which was very positive. 75%+ of responses for each question were very supportive. Key strengths were evidenced. All issues raised received detailed and thoughtful replies. Governors thanked the Headteacher for the excellent report.
- v) Reporting/Reviewing of pupil attendance would now require robust monitoring, using an agreed template, so that governors could be assured that all pupils received the full support in relation to his/her education. New DfE Guidance was very prescriptive. Parents/carers would be informed of the new guidance in the Autumn Term 2022.

vi) The Headteacher updated the committee on the excellent achievements of the winners of the Primary Leaders Young Engineer Competition which took place at Coventry University culminating in a special awards ceremony.

iii) The HT was thanked for her comprehensive report and for all of the support given to staff and pupils.

4. School Improvement Plan (SIP)

The Headteacher shared an updated School Improvement Plan. The SIP was reviewed termly by the Vice Chair of Governors who reports back to all governors. No issues of concern were raised or noted and all priorities were on track for successful completion.

5. SEND and More Able Pupils (MAT) / Pupils Premium / Sports Premium - Report.

There were no issues of concern or worries noted. All relevant policies were up to date and can be accessed via the school website.

6. Safeguarding - Update

Governors would review training and development needs following the annual governor skills audit so that all were fully up-to-date. There were no ongoing issues of concern reported.

7. Parent Teacher and Friends Association - PTFA

The PTFA had been extremely active in supporting events at the school for parents/carers and for pupils. As Chair of Governors, I thanked the PTFA for their excellent work and said how the Governors greatly appreciated the additional funding being provided for the benefit of all pupils at the school. Projects included individual pupils raising funds, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations at the school where £1569.87 was realised. As Chair, I am hoping to meet members of the PTFA at a future meeting in order to thank them, in person, for their valuable contribution.

8. School Website

The website was up-to-date.

9. School Nursery

All was working well as far as the nursery was concerned. Funding was reported separately as a budget heading. The budget, numbers of pupils and staffing were also being regularly reviewed. No issues of concern were raised.

10. Governors Skills Audit, Reflections on the past year and plans for the new Academic Year 2022/23.

Governors completed skills audits, which would assist in considering whether there were any gaps in expertise. There was also the opportunity to reflect on key issues of concern which had been raised by parents/carers. The area of parent/carer input via social media and facebook etc, was a particular area discussed. It was also agreed that parents/carers should be advised of their responsibilities in relation to their social media use and behaviour towards the Headteacher and school staff.

There will be no changes to governor committees for the ensuing year. Dates of meetings would be circulated early in the Autumn Term. Paperwork would be

updated in relation to:- Governor Terms of Reference, committee agendas and reports. Support and challenge in the form of questions raised by governors, would be included, and the overall impact of work undertaken, would be captured in the Headteacher reports.

10. Governors continued to act as a **'critical friend'** to the school. At each meeting, governors offered appropriate 'support and challenge' and made recommendations/decisions as required. There was a professional working relationship between the school and governors/governance.

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

12. The Chair thanked the **governors** for their input and support which was much appreciated.

13. The Chair finally thanked **Louise George, Head Teacher, the SLT and overall 'Team Walford'** for the continued superb work, dedication and commitment. The Summer Term had been incredibly busy. Governors wished to thank Louise George and her team for the excellent work in supporting all pupils, and also for all that they did to enhance, enrich and support pupil's education on a daily basis. Everything was being undertaken with the aim to continue the key message from the school's mission statement of:

'Learning and Enjoyment... Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!'

Paul Deneen

Chair of the Board of Governors

29.07.2022