



Stonelow Junior School Governing Body

Impact and Effectiveness - July 2024

The *Governors' Handbook* states that all schools should publish on their website an annual statement setting out the key issues that have been faced and addressed by the governing body over the last year, including an assessment of the impact of the governing body of the school. At Stonelow Junior School the Governing Body focuses on the three main areas of Governance in the following way:

- Ensuring the clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governors at SJS attend regular meetings at which the School Improvement Plan is reviewed, budgets are monitored, policies are agreed, staff recruitment and retention is discussed and most importantly, the well-being and achievement of the children and staff is central to all discussions.

Focus for 2023-24

Governors are aware of the School Improvement priorities which are identified through rigorous self-evaluation involving data analysis, lesson observations, work scrutiny and pupil interviews which named governors are invited to attend. Over the past year the School has focussed on:

- Providing an appropriate and effective curriculum for all children [including vulnerable, neuro-diverse, SEND and most able children]
- Improving the percentage of children making accelerated progress and achieving at expected and Greater Depth in all subjects [with a focus on writing]
- To support the wellbeing and welfare of pupils and adults within the school

Governors are assigned a subject area to monitor, review and challenge. ALL Governors are involved in playing an active role in monitoring SIP priorities.

Training

Governors undertake regular training to ensure that they are fully trained to carry out the role of governors. Some attend specific training to enable them to carry out specific roles on the governing body. Each new governor is invited to attend new governor induction training. Governor Strategic briefing sessions run by the Cluster are attended by members of the governing body to ensure that all governors are kept up to date with any changes within the education system. Governors are trained in line with staff regarding annual safeguarding, online safety and PREVENT training.

What comes next?

- Governors are keeping abreast of information relating to the requirement for schools to become academies and regularly considering how this affects SJS.
- Governors are working on an action plan following an external Governance Review to improve the quality and impact of governance at Stonelow.
- Governors are ensuring they are informed about the challenges and changes in education so they are able to offer challenge and hold the Headteachers to account.