**BASSINGBOURN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-22**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Bassingbourn Community Primary School throughout the course of the 2021-22 academic year.

**Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance**

The Instrument of Government for Bassingbourn Community Primary School allows for 13 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership stands at 13 in July 2022 but there are three vacancies from September 2022, two co-opted and one parent governor.

Over the course of the 2021-22 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Dr Hilary Hodge.

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

Over the course of the year, Governors at Bassingbourn Community Primary School demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work. 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, Bassingbourn Community 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:

* Resources and Personnel Committee – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, Health and Safety, and Premises
* Standards and Improvement 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.

In addition to the above, the school also constitutes a Pay Committee and 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 staff alike
* Receiving updates from the Headteacher to inform their work in response to the pandemic, in order to ensure the continued education, wellbeing and safety of all children.
* Overseeing updates with regard to the progress made against the School Development Plan.
* The appointment of a new co-headteacher from September 2021 and a new deputy headteacher from September 2022.
* Undertaking a review of the leadership structure of the school with the aim of finding an effective structure to deliver the best possible education over the next five years; this resulted in the complete restructuring of the senior leadership team with effect from September 2022.
* Undertaking a governance review to ensure the future effectiveness of the governing body.
* Putting in place temporary leadership arrangements following the resignation of a co-headteacher in April 2022.

**Impact of the work of the Resources and Personnel Committee**

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

* Ensuring that the Catch-Up Premium and other targeted funding is invested effectively to provide optimum impact upon children’s learning.
* Overseeing the introduction of two form entry from September 2021.
* Resolving the financial implications of the new senior leadership structure.

**Impact of the work of the Standards and Improvement Committee**

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

* Promoting improved attendance for children within school, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
* Ensuring that safeguarding practices and procedures were effective.
* Supporting the headteacher to bring about curriculum change and updating teaching and learning techniques.
* Examining the recommendations of the Ofsted inspection of April 2022 and supporting the headteacher to draw up plans to address these.
* Agreeing the Equality Objectives for the next 3 years and ratifying the Prevent policy.
* Reviewing subject documents and meeting with a range of subject leaders to discuss their plans.

**Governor Training**

Governors’ work is collective, 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;

* OFSTED
* Funding and Budgeting for School Governors
* Safeguarding
* Exclusion Panel Training
* Wellbeing webinar for school leaders
* Induction for Maintained School Governors
* Behaviour panels

Additionally, the Governing Body includes a training element within each FGB meeting. During 2021-22 these have included:

* Leadership development
* Safeguarding
* Ofsted inspection
* School development planning

**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). Due to the pandemic, the majority of monitoring visits this year have been virtual.

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

* Safeguarding (2 visits)
* SEND
* Health and Safety
* Class based research project
* Class talks strategy
* Mental and emotional wellbeing (2)
* Other teaching and learning initiatives (4)

Additionally, the Chair and Vice chair met regularly with the joint headteachers to monitor and discuss school developments.

**Forward Planning**

In 2022-23, the Governing Body looks forward to working closely with school and local authority staff to bring about the changes recommended by the Ofsted inspection of April 2022. In particular, this will include:

* Supporting and monitoring the development and effectiveness of the new senior leadership team
* Ensuring an effective working relationship between the headteacher, staff and governors
* Ensuring that pupils’ progress in areas such as reading and phonics improves significantly
* Supporting school leaders to develop consistent teaching and learning strategies across the school
* Supporting school leaders to improve systems, processes and operational effectiveness to enable the best possible outcomes for pupils
*

**Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at: [**Governors Information | Bassingbourn Community Primary School**](https://www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk/site/pages/page.php?page=governors_information&t=1627028946)**.** 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@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk**  regarding the work of the Governing Body.