

Purley Primary Review of Governance –2017-18

Vision, accountability, performance

Over the past year, the Governing body worked closely with school staff to complete a Strategic Plan for the school, that sets out our long term aims and goals for Purley School. The strategic priorities that we are holding ourselves and the school staff to account for delivering on are to:

- A. Provide excellence in Whole Child Education
- B. Continue to build the Purley Primary School community (i.e. encompassing wider community – pupils, parents, staff, church, local and global communities)
- C. Provide effective use of resources
- D. Provide effective and committed leadership, governance and financial control

We wanted to share with you what we have been doing, as the Governing body of the school, to ensure that progress is made in all areas of this strategic plan.

Provide excellence in Whole Child Education:

The governing body meets regularly to review all of the data provided by Mrs Fakes and by the local authority, on the progress made across all areas of the curriculum. We have held constructive discussions on all aspects, holding the school to account for ensuring that each child makes the best progress that they can – within the practical and financial constraints that every school faces.

We hold the school to account for ensuring that budgets are well spent to provide support to both curriculum and extra-curriculum activities. We have recently completed a survey of staff and governors, to explore how well we are doing with achieving our goals, and looking at where we need to focus our energies going forward.

Continue to build the Purley Primary School community

As governors we have given our full support to the school with all of the local community and global school linking projects. We approved spending on the Prince William award for Years 3 & 4, as a core contribution towards the development of our children's social, moral, spiritual and physical development. We have supported the ongoing commitment to the JDO partnership and ensured that strong links with the Church are sustained through our Foundation Governors.

We are recruiting a new governor to join us, someone with good business experience and links to the local economy. Please do get in touch if you'd like to hear more about what this entails.

Provide effective use of resources

As I am sure you will know from the news, budgets are extremely tight for schools at the moment. As a governing body it is our responsibility to ensure that the budget that the school is given is extremely well used. The key benchmark for us all, is 'are we using our finances in the best way possible, to ensure that we give each child the best possible opportunities to learn and develop?'

The governing body and the school staff have worked extremely hard to ensure that Purley school does not go in to deficit this year, although this will be a harder and harder task in the future with more budget cuts coming down the line from government.

We are also responsible for ensuring that the human resources – the excellent teaching and support staff in the school – are both supported and held to account for their work. We are hugely proud of the continued progress that has been made this year, especially in strengthening maths across the school.

Provide effective and committed leadership, governance and financial control

As governors at Purley School we take our responsibilities very seriously, and have all worked extremely hard individually, and collectively, to provide the school with strong oversight in all areas.

I am extremely thankful to each member of the Governing Body for their continued commitment, energy and passion for this task.

With thanks

Catherine Hester

Chair of Governors