

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Morley Memorial Primary School for the Academic Year 2022-2023

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Morley Memorial Primary School's Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body is made up of:

- Two parent governors
- One staff governor
- The head teacher
- One local authority governor
- Ten co-opted governors.

In 2022-2023 the full Governing Body met six times for committee meetings and once for a visioning day where we considered the future direction of the school.

Governors also have a series of responsibilities as Link Governors taking the lead in helping monitor a specific improvement priority. Today we have Link Governor roles covering the following priorities

1. **Wellbeing & behaviour:** This includes introducing opportunities for pupils to both have a voice and develop leadership capabilities, alongside developing and implementing a universal approach to wellbeing
2. **Teaching & learning:** This involves ensuring improvement in teaching and assessment of writing. Additionally, assessing whether there is the provision of appropriate professional development and opportunities for staff to further develop leadership capabilities, particularly as it relates to curriculum
3. **Curriculum:** This requires refining the scope and sequence of the curriculum from (Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to Year 6. It also means reviewing plans to ensure key knowledge and skills which children should acquire in each year group are clear.

Alongside these priority areas, the Link Governor roles cover other important functions of the school including Finance, Health and safety, Pupil Premium, Inclusion and SEND, Safeguarding and communications.

A list of governors can be found on the school website.

Attendance record of governors

Attendance at meetings is generally good. Governors have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See the school website for details of individual governors' attendance.

The work done by the governing body over the academic year 2022-2023

How governors ensured clarity of vision, ethos and the strategic direction of the school

Following consultation with parents, staff and children, governors formally agreed Morley's core purpose and values in Autumn 2018 and later in the year governors agreed our four year vision.

Our Core Purpose. We are committed to providing a rich and engaging creative curriculum and excellent teaching which challenges and inspires all of our children. We believe the role of every adult in school is to contribute to raising achievement, enabling all children to achieve the highest standards and make excellent progress. We seek to equip our children with the knowledge, skills and personal attributes to take advantage of opportunities and rise to the challenges which their future may present.

Our Values. As a school, we have a shared focus on three constants:

- Aiming high and challenging ourselves
- Being kind, caring and respectful
- Collaborating, innovating and being creative

Through these three goals we seek to promote the values of perseverance, honesty, tolerance, teamwork, equality and courage, all within the wider context of promoting “British Values”*.

Our Vision. Our ambition for the school over the next four years is:

- For all children to make great progress across the full range of subject areas.
- For all pupils to develop the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to allow them take advantages of their future opportunities.
- To improve the learning environment by upgrading facilities and resources
- To establish new systems for recruiting, developing and retaining a high performing team.
- To continue to develop a creative curriculum and provide increased opportunities for high quality project based learning.
- To develop partnerships which benefit the school and others.

2) How governors held the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.

- Every term, teachers tracked the progress of all children in the school in reading, writing and maths. This data was presented to the governors’ Learning Committee. We looked at progress in every year group for the following groups: the whole year, boys / girls, children with special educational needs, children in receipt of pupil premium and children with English as an additional language. If progress was slower than we would expect for any of these groups, we questioned the head as to why this was and what specifically the school intended to do to remedy the situation. We have not shied away from asking challenging questions.
- We have monitored the school’s progress towards meeting targets identified in the school’s development plan. We have done this by looking at school planning documents, discussing at meetings what actions the school has taken, analysing data and by visiting the school to talk to teachers, teaching assistants and children.
- Governors visited the school to monitor specific areas, for example, whether the school is meeting its safeguarding responsibilities or to monitor spending of pupil premium funding.
- Governors performance managed the head teacher and monitored to ensure that teachers’ performance management had taken place.
- Governors have also monitored data on quality of teaching, attendance, racial incidents and exclusions.
- We organised the 2022-2023 parental questionnaire because we want to know how well parents think the school is doing and how it could improve. We read every response and work with the school to ensure that common themes are dealt with appropriately.
- The school website has information about how to contact governors.

3) How governors oversaw the financial performance of the school and made sure its money is well spent.

- Governors monitor the school budget throughout the year, including scrutinising income, expenditure against agreed budget, variance and outturn. Governors formally agreed the budget in May 2023. Throughout the year, the link governors for finance and FGB kept a close eye on the school’s financial priorities, considering how these could best be met. Governors have monitored to ensure that proper procurement procedures have been followed. Governors have visited the school to meet with the business manager to get a in depth understanding of financial issues.

Communication

The Governing Body believes it is important that the school and wider community understand what we do. We have therefore taken measure to be as transparent as possible. The school website is our main method of communication. Our minutes are available upon request from the clerk, clerk@morley.cambs.sch.uk and the website contains information about who governors are, what the Governing Body does, how it communicates and how to contact governors.

How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. Please contact our Chair of Governors, Satyen Dayal, via the school office or via clerk@morley.cambs.sch.uk.