

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of St Anne's Fulshaw Primary School

July 2016

Claire Carter BA Mus, MBA – Chair of Governors

The Governors are appointed and elected to provide:

Strong Links between the school and community it serves
Maintain the Christian character of our school
A wide experience of the outside world
An independent and strategic view
A visible form of accountability for the Headteacher and staff of the school
A team focusing on long term development and improvement
Accountability to the community for the use of resources and the standards of teaching and learning in the school
Support for the Headteacher and staff

St Anne's Governing Body

All governors are volunteers, consisting of staff, parents, clergy and members of the wider community. A governor's role is to be strategic, to guide, to challenge, to monitor and support the school and its staff who run the operation of the school day to day.

The Governing Body of St Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School is made up of 2 Staff Governors (including the Headteacher), 2 Foundation Governors, 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor (Vacancy), 4 Co-opted Governors and 1 Associate Governor. Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the Governing Body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The full Governing Body meets once each term, or more as required. I called an additional Extraordinary Meeting of governors for 11 July, to discuss our approach to becoming an academy. We also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail, these committees report directly to the Full Governing Body. Our Committee structure is as follows:

1. Resources Committee, which focuses on finance, premises and related financial personnel matters
2. Aims and Achievement Committee which focuses on our curriculum and pupils' achievements (both academically and otherwise) and pupils' learning and experience
3. Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee.

We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline, complaints and staffing matters.

In addition to Full Governing Body and Committee membership governors have specific responsibilities as link governor roles. Governors monitor and review the work of the school in specific subject areas and responsibilities. For example we have governors who

	<p>monitor Safeguarding, SEN, Health and Safety, Music, Geography, Numeracy, Literacy and many more. In many cases governors attend specific training courses relating to their subject areas. This last year governors have continued to focus on this role.</p> <p>See our website for a full list of our governors and a short biog. http://www.stannesfulshaw.net/page/governors/2304</p>
Attendance record of governors	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See Attendance detail below.</p>
The work that the school, governors and committees have done.	<p>The Governing Body is responsible for in excess of 60 policies, many of which are statutory (i.e. required by the DofE), many are reviewed annually and the work is divided through our committees in the main. The Governing Body’s role is to review, amend and discuss policies as is required by law and according to the schools requirements. It also ratifies and records these policies.</p> <p>The governing body must keep up to date with the latest and ever changing policies of government at both a national and local level. This can be often challenging for a small governing body and school.</p> <p>The governing body has supported the head throughout this year and endeavoured to ensure that the pastoral care of our pupils and staff (including the HT) is paramount. This is not always easy in a small busy school and particularly challenging in recent times. There has been controversy regarding SATS, the testing of children, and the attainment levels expected. At St Anne’s we do our best to Keep Calm and Carry on, these are not for children to worry about. Our HT is a qualified senior Ofsted Inspector and this experience for a small school such as ours is invaluable. However, it became evident that our Head Teacher’s vocation is to St Anne’s and its pupils and much of this inspection work was reduced this last year. As Governors we are very grateful for this commitment, thank you.</p> <p>Governors and staff spend time together on INSET days to discuss, review and consider our strategy for the coming year and beyond. This is very useful for all and will be repeated annually in September. This forms the basis for our Strategic Development Plan. Data is reviewed, subjects are agreed to become a focus for the year and so on. Governors undergo training throughout the year, and can tailor courses relevant to the work the committees require. This underpins the commitment that all governors make to the school and its pupils.</p> <p>A key point of development for governors this last year was to be Ofsted inspection ready, it has been a few years since our last inspection (2012) and we are therefore due a further inspection.</p> <p>Finally, as the academic year drew to a close the governing body has become involved the Wilmslow Education Cluster, to discuss as a group of schools the question of academisation and how we can work together to achieve this. Governor Chairs in the local area began to meet to share best practice and be able to help each other.</p>

	<p>To prove that Governors practice what they preach, our governing body supported by fundraising through the PTA and corporate sponsorship has commissioned a new build Resource Room and Library Room to be built in the playground. Work starts on the 21st July. Although Governors do not get involved with day to day operational matters this special project has been project managed from inception by the governing body. We are very grateful to the PTA, our donors and fundraisers that have made a dream a reality (fingers crossed).</p> <p>The Governing Body has worked hard as a group devoting their many and varied skills and, most of all, valuable time. As Chair I would like to thank them all for their support for St Anne's.</p> <p><u>Our Committees</u></p> <p>The Aims and Achievements Committee has spent time refining the the newly introduced curriculum and a new in house method of assessment, following on from the government's abolition of Assessment Levels. This committee reviews a large number of policies including those relating to safeguarding and vulnerable children. It reviews the work of the HT and staff with regard to all areas of the curriculum, safeguarding and child protection to name a few. St Anne's puts our children and their well being and safeguarding at the utmost priority ensuring that staff and governors are trained and our internal processes are reviewed regularly.</p> <p>The Resources Committee reviews all finance and premises building matters. The HT and Chair and LA Budget Officer meet three times per year to set, review and plan the school's budget given the funds provided by government. One of the main priorities for this committee this past year has been to try to maintain the staffing level in our school as we have a high requirement for support staff. This is increasingly difficult in the current economic climate. However, we continue to apply for exceptional funding and to gain support from outside agencies.</p> <p>Our Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee monitors many policies and pay arrangements, staffing structure and much more. We have been able to maintain staffing levels to support our children this year, and into the next. A panel of governors also conducts the Head Teachers performance Appraisal.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – you can either find them on the Governors' page of our website or you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings. Minutes are published the following term after the meeting.</p>
<p>Challenges faced by our Governing Body over the past year.</p>	<p>Our governing body has faced challenges as many have with an ever decreasing budget being imposed simultaneously with increasing needs for our children. Our focus is to give children the best start in life and resources which we spend on children at the earliest possible time in their lives sets them up for success in the future.</p> <p>The pressure put on our staff, parents and most of all pupils with</p>

	<p>testing, last minute changes to SATS is extremely stressful for all. Our staff go to great lengths to ensure this strain does not trickle down to our children, if the children 'have a quiz today' for example. This approach is proven to be successful. As a school governor and a parent I am very aware of the effect of this on our staff and am as ever in awe of their true dedication. The shifting of government policy regarding tests, academies etc... is not, in my view, conducive to our main role of ensuring our children's educational experience is the absolute best it can be. We do however, 'battle on'.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the build and ensure it is integrated into the daily life of the school and enhances the experience for all children. 2. Continue to build on relationships with local schools and consider whether we will become part of an academy grouping. Ensuring the best outcome for our children at all times. 3. Pursue further funding from additional sources to support our unique school and its children.
<p>How you can contact the Governing Body</p>	<p>If you have any suggestions as to how the Governing body can strategically improve our school please feel free to contact us. We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Claire Carter via the school office, governors' e-mail or in the playground at pick up or drop off.</p>

St Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governing Body

Governor	Category	Term of current office expiry
Claire Carter (Chair of Governors, Chair of Resources Committee, Clerk PPP Committee)	Parent Governor	2017
Nicky Cathery (Vice Chair, Chair of PPP Committee)	Co-opted Governor	2020
Daniel Baker (Clerk Finance Committee)	Parent Governor	2020
Katie Davies	Co-opted Governor	2018 (new term per reconstitution)
Anne Baker (Clerk A&A)	Foundation Governor	2020
Vacancy	LA Governor	
Rev Paul Smith	Ex-Officio Governor	N/A
Alan Wilson	Co-opted Governor	2018
Natalie Lloyd (Chair A&A)	Co-opted Governor	2018
Wendy Clark	Staff Governor	2020
Clare Daniel	Staff Governor	N/A
Jonathan Vose	Associate Governor	

ST Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2015/16

Governor	Full Governing Body	Resources Committee	Aims and Achievement Committee	Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee
Claire Carter	100%	67%	Not on this committee	33%
Nicky Cathery	67%	Not on this committee	Not on this committee	100%
Daniel Baker	100%	100%	Not on this committee	Not on this committee
Katie Davis	100%	Not on this committee	100%	100%
Anne Baker	100%	Not on this committee	100%	Not on this committee
Rev Paul Smith	67%	Not on this committee	Not on this committee	Not on this committee
Alan Wilson	67%	67%	Not on this committee	Not on this committee
Natalie Lloyd	100%	Not on this committee	100%	Not on this committee
Wendy Clark	100%	100%	Not on this committee	100%
Clare Daniel	100%	100%	100%	100%
Catherine Guy	0% (resignation accepted 20.10.15)	Not on this committee	33%	Not on this committee
Associate Governors				
Jonathan Vose	67%	67%	Not on this committee	Not on this committee
Penny Bowker	33% (resignation accepted 20.10.15)	Not on this committee	Not on this committee	0%
Observers				
Rev Laura Rhodes	33%	N/A	N/A	N/A