

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

July 2018

Claire Carter BA Mus, MBA – Chair of Governors

The Governors are appointed and elected to:

- Create and protect the school's vision and ethos
- Provide an independent and Strategic view
- Be part of a team focusing on long term development and improvement
- Provide a visible form of accountability for the headteacher and staff of the school
- Maintain the Christian Character of the school
- Ensure links to the community we serve and the wider community
- Support the school, the Head and staff
- Know our school
- Put the Children FIRST

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 and 4 Co-opted Governors. 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. Occasionally there is a need to call an E (extraordinary) FGB. 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 link governor roles. Governors monitor and review the work of the school in specific subject areas and responsibilities. For example we have governors who monitor Safeguarding, SEN, Health and Safety, Music, Geography, Numeracy, Literacy and many more. In many cases governors attend

	<p>specific training courses relating to their subject areas. This last year governors have continued to focus these 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>
<p>Attendance record of governors</p>	<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>
<p>The work that the school, governors and committees have done.</p>	<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 often be challenging for a small governing body and school.</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.</p> <p>Governors undergo training throughout the year, and can select courses relevant to the work their committees require and the areas of strategic focus for the forthcoming year. This underpins the commitment that all governors make to the school and its pupils.</p> <p>This time last year we were still awaiting our Ofsted inspection and the prospect was looming large for both staff and governors. I am pleased to report that we had a full inspection and our inspector wrote a very favourable report and reflected the often unique make-up of our school. The mammoth effort our staff put in to the success of our pupils and their commitment is humbling and I’m pleased the inspector recognised this. We rated a good with outstanding in some areas. I urge all to read the report available on the school website.</p> <p>Some weeks later our SIAMS inspection also due was carried out. I am pleased to report that the commitment and dedication was also recognised by this inspector and we rated outstanding in all areas.</p> <p>The Governing body consulted with all stakeholder groups in January holding a series of meetings to put forward intention to apply to form a Multi-Academy-Trust with 5 other local schools. We consulted to gauge a view from all interested groups and the wider community and endeavour to answer any questions which arose. We are very grateful for the input from staff, parents and the community as well as their support and trust that governors will make the final decision after much negotiation, in the best interests of our children in our school.</p>

We would like to thank the PCC (Parochial Parish Council) for their full support in our intention to apply to the diocese and hopefully DfE, to become an Academy and form a Trust. There is still much work to be done, we shall as ever, keep you informed.

St Anne's is a Voluntary Controlled Church School which is attached to the Chester Diocese and as such we have made an application to the Diocese to gain consent to join with other schools, become an academy and form the Trust. As I write we are awaiting final written approval from the Diocese Board of Education panel.

Governors have supported the school throughout the school year and are very proud that our school has become an early adopter and lead school next year of the Emotional Healthy Schools initiative and the Resources and PPP committees support this initiative through staffing. Governors support staff, knowing that early intervention and help for children at the earliest stages in their school career can help our pupils build resilience, useful throughout their lives. We thank the staff for their time and dedication to our children's wellbeing.

The Governing Body has worked hard as a group devoting their many and varied skills and, most of all, valuable time. This year we are seeing two governors depart. Nicky Cathery who has served our school for many years both as a parent governor, foundation governor and co-opted governor. We will miss you and thank you for your hard work, time and care you've shown our school. We are also saying farewell to Katie Davies, our data expert who was an active member of our governing body and a great member of our team, particularly in matters of data and spreadsheets to name but a few. We thank you for continuing with our school even after your own children moved on to secondary. Many thanks and come back anytime.

Our Committees

The **Aims and Achievements 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, school data, SATS results and progress data, 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.

The **Resources Committee** reviews all finance and premises 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. Finances are tighter and tighter each year and the committee's work becomes harder.

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 Teacher's performance Appraisal.

	<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>One of the biggest challenges we faced over the last year was the high level of inspections and the pressure this exerts on all members of the school staff and governors. We are very pleased and proud that that hard work resulted in such a positive experience and outcome. Everything we do is ultimately for the benefit of our children and this was recognised and commended by both our inspectors.</p> <p>MAT negotiations pose a challenge for both the Head and Chair, mainly due to the time it takes, meetings documents, diocese applications and discussions. Legal points and land issues to investigate and so on. We need to be sure that it is right for our children that every i is dotted and every t crossed. In an environment where the day job is already highly pressured this has been quite a challenge and will continue to be. We may be small but we are feisty.</p> <p>Finance, Finance, Finance. An ever increasing pressure, we want to do more for our children with less funds. Our PTA is a mighty force within our community and really does help to offer our children experiences school funds would not be able to provide. Thank you.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue our governor role, we must not lose sight of our ‘day job’ in the mêlée of forms and negotiations. We must monitor, challenge and support to ensure our pupils’ school experience is the very best we can offer. Access training where possible and support our new governors also. 2. Continue to negotiate and do the work needed to form the MAT ensuring that any decision we take continues to protect and preserve our school of which we are so proud. 3. Resources – Monitor our finances with extreme care and support our children and staff as much as we can.
<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	2021
Nicky Cathery (Vice Chair, Chair of PPP Committee)	Co-opted Governor	retiring
Daniel Baker (Clerk Finance Committee)	Parent Governor	2020
Katie Davies	Co-opted Governor	2018
Anne Baker (Clerk A&A)	Foundation Governor	2018
Maxine Drabble (Clerk A & A Summer term)	LA Governor	2020
Vacancy	Ex-Officio Governor	
Natalie Lloyd (Chair A&A)	Co-opted Governor	2020
Wendy Clark	Staff Governor	2019
Clare Daniel	Staff Governor	
Jonathan Vose	Co-opted Governor	2020

ST Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2016/2017

Governor	Full Governing Body	Resources Committee (merged Premises Finance)	Aims & Achievement	Personnel, Pay & Performance
Claire Carter	100%	100%	33% (CPD)	100%
Nicky Cathery	67%	n/a	33%	33%
Daniel Baker	100%	100%	n/a	n/a
Katie Davies	67%	n/a	100%	100%
Anne Baker	100%	n/a	100%	n/a
Maxine Drabble	100%	66%	100%	n/a
Ex-officio (Vacancy)	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Natalie Lloyd	66%	n/a	100%	n/a
Wendy Clark	100%	100%	n/a	100%
Clare Daniel	100%	100%	100%	100%
Jonathan Vose	66%	66%	n/a	n/a