

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

July 2015

Claire Carter BA Mus, MBA – Chair of Governors

The Governors are appointed and elected to:

- Promote strong links between the school and community it serves
- Maintain the Christian character of our school
- Offer a wide experience of the outside world
- Take an independent and strategic view
- Be a visible form of accountability for the Headteacher and staff of the school
- Be part of a team focusing on long term development and improvement
- Be accountable to the community for the use of resources and the standards of teaching and learning in the school
- Provide support for the Headteacher and staff

St Anne's Fulshaw 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, guide, challenge, monitor and support the school and its staff who run the operation of the school on a day to day basis.

The Governing Body of St Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School was re-constituted in 2014 as required by the DfE and is now made up of 2 Staff Governors (including the Headteacher), 2 Foundation Governors, 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 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, and we also have a number of committees which consider different aspects of the school in detail. These committees report directly to the full Governing Body. We re-organised our committee structure as part of the re-constitution process:

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 focused more on this role, and received specific training and support from the Head in order to fulfil this requirement.</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 was proud of the schools achievement figures, rated 1st in the Borough and 84th nationally in 2014. This goes to show that the ethos of the school supports all our children to achieve the best they can whatever their needs. The Governing Body is committed to improve the outcomes for ALL children at our school, ensures that full use of the Pupil Premium and other funding provides support to those who require a little more help.</p> <p>The Governing Body is responsible for in excess of 60 policies, many of which are statutory (i.e. required by the DfE), many are reviewed annually and the work is divided across 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 school’s requirements. It also ratifies and records these policies.</p> <p>This past year our Governing Body has become involved in a government pilot to improve governance, and has received support and guidance from the Centre for Public Scrutiny. As a result we have all received additional training to support us in our monitoring role.</p> <p>The Governing Body endeavours to ensure parents are informed of new legislation within education with events such as ‘Assessing without Levels’ held earlier this year. The Governing Body hopes that attendance for these events and curriculum evenings will increase.</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 of St Anne’s Fulshaw.</p> <p><u>Our Committees</u></p> <p>The Aims and Achievements Committee has spent time considering the introduction of a new curriculum as well as the introduction of a new in house method of assessment, following the government’s abolition of National Curriculum levels. This committee reviews a large number of policies including those relating to safeguarding and vulnerable children. It reviews the work of the Headteacher and staff with regard to all areas of the curriculum, safeguarding and child protection to name a few. St Anne’s puts the importance of our children and their well-being and safety as 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-related building matters. The Headteacher, Chair and LA Budget Officer meet three times per year to set, review and plan the school's budget based on the funds provided by government. One of the main priorities for the 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. Watch this space....</p> <p>This year the governors have, through PTA funding, commissioned plans for a new Library and Resource Room to be placed in the playground, where the bike shed is currently. We have also reviewed annual maintenance and external decoration which is still ongoing. We owe great thanks to our parents and PTA who have been fundraising tirelessly for this project. Our Bike Riders have raised much and we are very proud to be governors of a school whose parents are so supportive. One of our Governors Alan Wilson has cycled 1180 miles alone to raise funds.</p> <p>Our Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee monitors many policies and pay arrangements, staffing structure and much more. This year we unfortunately are saying goodbye to Liz Thomas a teacher for many years and our school SENCO. We look forward to welcoming our new teacher and new roles for our present staff.</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.</p>
<p>Challenges faced by our Governing Body over the past year.</p>	<p>Our Governing Body recognises that this past year has been one of the most challenging for our Headteacher and staff as well as governors alike. Funding is being squeezed as our school and pupils' needs have increased. Outside agencies have suffered cuts and as a school we feel we have not received the support our pupils need and deserve. Katie Davies, one of our governors, has questioned MPs at open forums and specialised events on the dire state of the mental health services offered to schools which shows the lengths our Governing Body will go to try to make a difference.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan, support fundraising and build a new Library and Resource Room which will help all in our school community. 2. Focus on funding and budgeting to continue and increase our support for all our pupils. Ensure our use of these funds including Pupil Premium gives best value for our pupils. 3. Continue to focus on monitoring our curriculum and assessment procedures. 4. Ensure that we are caring members of a whole community in school and outside the school and continue our involvement in community projects.
<p>How you can contact the Governing Body</p>	<p>If you have any suggestions about 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)	Foundation Governor	
Daniel Baker (Clerk Finance Committee)	Parent Governor	2016
Katie Davies	Co-opted Governor	2018 (new term per reconstitution)
Anne Baker (Clerk A&A)	Co-opted Governor	2018
Catherine Guy	LA Governor	2018
Rev Paul Smith	Ex-Officio Governor	2015
Alan Wilson	Co-opted Governor	2018
Natalie Lloyd (Chair A&A)	Co-opted Governor	2018
Wendy Clark	Staff Governor	
Clare Daniel	Staff Governor	
Penny Bowker	Associate Governor	

ST Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2014/2015

Governor	Full Governing Body	Resources Committee (merged Premises Finance)	Aims & Achievement	Personnel, Pay & Performance
Claire Carter	100%	100%	n/a	100%
Nicky Cathery	100%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Daniel Baker	100%	100%	n/a	n/a
Katie Davies	100%	n/a	100%	100%
Anne Baker	100%	n/a	100%	n/a
Catherine Guy	67%	n/a	100%	n/a
Rev Paul Smith	67%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Alan Wilson	100%	100%	n/a	n/a
Natalie Lloyd	67%	n/a	100%	n/a
Wendy Clark	100%	100%	n/a	100%
Clare Daniel	100%	100%	100%	100%
Penny Bowker	67%	n/a	n/a	67%