

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

July 2023

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, 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 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 at school.
3. Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee.

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

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 and this work feeds in directly to our school development plans.

The culture, values and ethos is crucial to governors of St Anne's and as a Christian school our aim is to ensure our actions and decisions are considered against those values.

It is important for us to be visible. We are also able to keep up to date with the daily life and news of the school via the weekly newsletter The Friday Flyer as well as class and school twitter pages.

	<p>It is important that as a smaller school we forge and maintain good links with our wider community, the church, our local residents, shops and more. So often I am glad to report that locals refer to our school as a lovely special place with well-behaved pupils. This goodwill benefits all in our community and is important to our success. We know St Anne's is a special community and continue to strive to keep this the case.</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 generally 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). We are currently looking for parent governors and are happy to discuss with individuals to see if their skills would add value to our governing body.</p> <p>See attendance detail below.</p>
<p>The work that the school, governors and committees.</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 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 school's requirements. It also ratifies and records these policies.</p> <p>Governors undergo training throughout the year, new governors receive induction training and can and should 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>Ofsted</p> <p>I have had cause this year to be so very proud of our school this year from the pupils who behaved and responded impeccably, staff who worked so very hard and governors who turned up en- masse and represented our school so admirably. The current climate surrounding Ofsted at that particular time added a layer of pressure that was at times hard to bear but our school community got through the inspection and I'm glad to say our outcome was excellent and a true reflection of our school and its ethos. Outstanding in 2 of the 5 areas, ones that are very much aligned to our school ethos.</p> <p>MyHappyMind</p> <p>As an emotionally healthy school the embedding of this programme has had a clear and measurable impact on our school, highlighted in our Ofsted outcomes. Governors have supported the expansion of our Learning Mentor and Mental Health support in our school and this work has been recognised with a Bronze award from MyHappyMind.</p> <p>Wilmslow Youth</p> <p>We have worked with Wilmslow Youth this year as part of their transition to Year 7 programme. This has been well received by staff and pupils and we hope to be part of this expanding programme ongoing for the next cohort and beyond.</p> <p><u>Our committees</u></p>

	<p>The Aims and Achievements Committee reviews a large number of policies including those relating to safeguarding and vulnerable children. Recently our staff have reviewed our entire curriculum in some depth and provided governors with details which governors can explore the impact of these when meeting individual teachers to discuss specific subject areas.</p> <p>The committee reviews the work of the HT and staff at a strategic level with regard to all areas of the curriculum, school data, SATS results and progress data, safeguarding and child protection to name a few. Our school uses a very effective monitoring tool so teachers and governors more widely can see where our children are succeeding and use this data to feed our improvement strategies and focus for forthcoming years.</p> <p>The Resources Committee reviews all finance and premises matters. The HT, Committee 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. School budgets are as you may imagine suffering considerably in these difficult times.</p> <p>I have previously reported the huge pressures on our school and schools in general on our SEN budgets, these remain. Our school and governors are committed to ensuring our children are supported first and foremost and we work to this end always. I would be lying if I didn't say these pressures are great and cause difficulties and frustration. As chair I am very grateful of the work and support of our governors to ensure we never forget to put our children first whilst balancing our finances.</p> <p>Our Personnel, Pay and Performance Committee monitors many policies and pay arrangements, staffing structure and much more. A panel of governors also conducts the Headteacher's performance appraisal. We have had to navigate the sad news that our long serving staff member and DHT was retiring this summer, we wish her well in her retirement. We are pleased that the governing body recruited our very own J Chapman to DHT and are supporting her through the additional leadership training she is undertaking.</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 once approved.</p>
<p>Challenges faced by our Governing Body over the past year.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finances – Always a particular difficulty in most schools in these times but sometimes it can feel hard in a small school where there are many pressures staff carry some heavy work burdens. 2. Birth rates took a dip nationally and a small school can often feel this more. I understand however that a more recent upturn to soon enough right the balance. 3. Our school is actually one of the most diverse in this area and whilst we can face challenges of language, for example, we embrace and celebrate all the positives that this offers our community and we are richer for it. 4. A small school comes with both huge positives and indeed some challenges.

<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support new Deputy Head and support the staff in our link governor roles as subject leadership has a re organisation. 2. Monitor the continued curriculum development specifically in 2 subject areas (DT and History) and the further development of core subjects. Add more governor link visits to our schedule. 3. Raise profile of our school and continue to build on our links with the local community in particular our church as we now have a new Rector and family keen to support and play a part in our school life. <p>The school also plans to create a new wildlife garden at the front of school and this will in turn enhance the surrounding area for our whole community. We hope to be able to have local community assistance with this project.</p> <p>As part of our action plan to raise the profile of our school we have set up a school Instagram account alongside our twitter, take a look, it's a great medium to show the huge number of activities and work our school does week after week. Do share with your networks.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Support our governing body as it welcomes new members and looks for new governors to join us. I will be stepping down as chair after over 9 years as chair (over 10 as a governor) I will stay with the governing body to support the new chair before stepping down completely in the next academic year. 5. Develop our links with Wilmslow Youth Charity to prepare our Year 6 for transition in high schools.
<p>How you can contact the Governing Body</p>	<p>If you would like to discuss joining our governing body, feel free to get in touch for an informal discussion. We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Claire Carter via the school office or the chair at chair@stannesfulshaw.net</p>

St Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governing Body

Governor	Category	Term of current office expiry
Claire Carter (Chair of Governors, (Resources Committee, Clerk PPP Committee, AA Committee Chair)	LA Governor	2025
Vacancy	Parent Governor	
Richard Matthews (PPP Committee chair)	Parent Governor	2025
Angela Fitton	Foundation Governor	2026
Rev Eddie Roberts	Ex-Officio Governor	No expiry while in post
Natalie Lloyd	Co-opted Governor	2023
Wendy Clark	Staff Governor	2024
Clare Daniel	Staff Governor	No expiry while in post
Sally Petrie (Resources Committee)	Co-opted Governor	2027
Maxine Drabble (Vice Chair, Chair of Resources)	Co-opted Governor	2027
Mathew Williamson (AA Committee Clerk)	Co-opted Governor	2027

St Anne's Fulshaw CE Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2022-23

Governor	Full Governing Body 3 meetings	Resources Committee 3 meetings	Aims & Achievement Committee 3 meetings	Personnel, Pay & Performance Committee 2 meetings
Claire Carter	100%	100%	66%	100%
Wendy Clark	100%	100%	N/A	100%
Clare Daniel	100%	100%	100%	100%
Maxine Drabble	100%	100%	N/A	33%
Angela Fitton	100%	N/A	67%	100%
Natalie Lloyd	100%	N/A	66%	N/A
Richard Matthews	100%	N/A	N/A	100%
Sally Petrie (from 13 th March 2023)	67%	33%	33%	N/A
Rev Eddie Roberts (from 23 rd April 2023)	33%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Matt Williamson	100%	N/A	100%	N/A