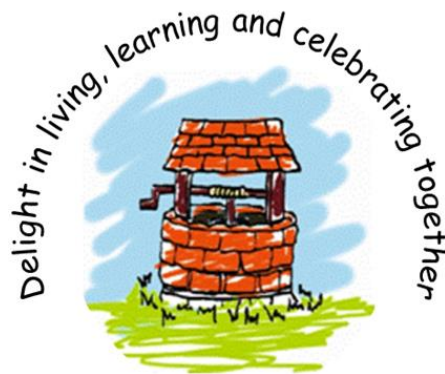


THE GOVERNANCE ANNUAL STATEMENT 2021/2022

HIPSWELL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL CATTERICK GARRISON
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In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Hipswell Church of England Primary School Governing Body are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**
- 2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure best value is considered at all times**

Governance arrangements

The governing Body of Hipswell Church of England Primary School was reconstituted in 2015 and is now made up of:

Headteacher

1 Local Authority Governor 3 Co-opted Governors

1 Staff Governor

2 Foundation Governors 2 Parent Governors

The Governing Body for Hipswell School is made up of a strong group of experienced leaders from education, business, army, health and safety and from the Diocese. Three members are former Headteachers.

The Governors fulfil their statutory and legal requirements and they monitor and evaluate the School Improvement Plan and the standards of the school. They are

responsible for the strategic planning and direction of the school. They are responsible for the school budget and financial planning.

The Governing Body of Hipswell Church of England School has a programme of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance. As well as **Full Governing Body Meetings** a Sub – Committee, the **School Improvement Committee**, also exists to monitor all aspects of the quality of education including the curriculum and assessment, behaviour and attitudes, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, relationships, sex and health education and personal development.

Each member of the Governing Body also has a specific responsibility linked to an aspect or curriculum area.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body, of the attendance of Governors at meetings.

Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made.

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The Governors' of Hipswell Church of England Primary School Annual Report to Parents for 2021-2022

Dear Parents,

As chair of the Governing Body of Hipswell Church of England Primary School, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of recent guidance from The Department of Education. It recommends that all Governing Bodies should make an annual statement to parents. Whilst this is not a statutory duty of the Governing Body we believe it demonstrates best practice and is a useful way we can communicate with you.

We believe this is a welcome initiative that gives us an opportunity to report on our judgements regarding the progress and achievements of the school and its children. In light of this, we hope the following information is helpful to you all.

Constitution of the Governing Body for 2021 - 22

Sarah Brotherton (Parent Governor & Chair of Governors), David Fishburn (Vice Chair, Co-opted Governor), Carolyn Ewbank (Headteacher), Sue Regan (Deputy Headteacher, Staff Governor) Tad Zaranko, (Co-opted Governor), Ian Robertson (Co-opted Governor), Katie Tomkinson (Parent Governor),

The Reverend Andrew Cromarty, Peter Kane (Foundation Governors).

It is a while since our school was inspected by the National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (March 2016) when the inspector judged Hipswell School to be **OUTSTANDING**. As a Governing Body it is our ambition to continue such high standards.

We are extremely proud of our school and the progress it has made during 2021-2022 given the challenges that the pandemic brought to all schools. In March 2018, the OFSTED inspection judged the school to be "**GOOD**" and we strive to work towards maintaining this judgement and beyond by working closely with the Headteacher and staff to ensure we continue to improve.

Since the last inspection we have had a new headteacher and deputy headteacher appointed. I know they have worked diligently in steering the school through the most challenging of circumstances. I would like to thank the Headteacher and her staff for the way they have ensured all our children have continued to learn and grow as young people during this time.

The school has enjoyed a successful year. As a school with 67% of pupils from a service background we continually welcome and say “good bye” to lots of children and families. In September, to welcome lots of new starters and we will continue to ensure that new children settle in quickly and continue to do well.

The Governors have continued to monitor the impact of the School Improvement Plan and held the headteacher and staff to account for the progress of the school. We have worked closely with the Local Authority’s School Improvement Adviser (SIA) and the Adviser from the Diocese.

We have worked hard to achieve the aims of the school priorities, at all times reflecting on how our actions fulfil the vision and value of our school, with good results. Standards in Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, Writing and Maths are, in general, in line with national averages and standards in the Early Years are good.

We monitor the progress and attainment of all children rigorously. The Headteacher and her staff are asked to report termly on the progress of groups and individuals by the Governing Body. Discussion on strategies for improving progress is continuous and individual children are monitored, discussed, and if necessary, interventions applied.

To widen opportunities for our staff to receive ongoing professional development, the Governing Body has agreed to continue to work with the Swaledale Alliance. The Alliance is a partnership of sixty-one schools that work collaboratively. It offers bespoke training and continued professional development to all members.

The Governing Body monitors the school closely through the Headteacher’s termly reports, leadership meetings and monitoring visits. Each member of the Governing Body is linked to a key aspect or subject. It is during these monitoring visits and when governors attend school at other times we continually seek to evaluate the impact of our Christian ethos, vision and aims as a Church school. At the same time, we are continually seeking that the school is demonstrating best practice in keeping children safe. All governors have undertaken training in safeguarding children and the Government’s PREVENT training that seeks to identify any concerns arising from radicalisation. We are mindful of our responsibilities under the 2010 Equality Act and aim to demonstrate that the school is a diverse community that wishes to cater for the needs of all children irrespective of race, gender, disability or faith.

The regulation from the Department of Education has asked schools to reflect on how children are given opportunities to understand and develop “British Values” and to celebrate the culture of what being “British” means to them. Every year each class votes for two class members to represent their views on the School Council.

Regular policy reviews are planned with regard to the Governing Body’s statutory obligations and curriculum development policy reviews are undertaken on a scheduled plan.

In addition, with the help of the local authority’s Financial Management Service for schools, we manage and monitor the school budget. This has been well managed and, as a result, we have been able to maintain a good level of staffing and resources in school.

The successes of the 2021-2022 are of course primarily due to the work and enthusiasm given by our excellent and professional teachers and staff. Through their daily planning, teachers initiate and deliver a wide, stimulating and interesting balanced curriculum; the children enjoy the challenges presented and are active and eager learners. As a Governing Body we want all the children, regardless of ability, to be successful. It has been the ambition of the governing body to facilitate, through challenging and supporting staff, to improve each child's educational journey. We confidently believe that this is being achieved.

At Hipswell Church of England Primary School, this team approach involves not only children, parents and staff but also the wider community. We value everyone's help and participation in school life and in their children's education. In a similar way, by working together in a positive and enthusiastic manner, the Governing Body strives to support the leadership and management of the school.

We are aware that the Government has proposed new opportunities for all schools with the Academy agenda. The Governing Body has begun to reflect on the recent White Paper, Opportunities for All: Strong Schools with Great Teachers for Your Child. In the next academic year we shall explore opportunities for Hipswell Church of England Primary School in greater detail. At the end of the academic year 2021 – 22 we said farewell and thank you to service of some of our staff and governors. We wish them all well in whatever awaits them in the future. For 2022 – 23, our Chair of Governors will be Ian Robertson and Vice Chair Tad Zaranko; we welcome Mrs Judy Clarke and Mr. Robert Muir as Co-opted Governors. Working alongside the staff, our governing body will be focusing on its responsibility as guardian of the best possible curriculum offer to all our children, keeping children safe, including strategies to raise levels of attendance.

In conclusion, I trust that this review of the governance of the school has been informative and helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Robertson

(Chair of Governors September 2022)