

Linton Primary School: Governors Report July 2019

We have had good governor attendance and support at meetings this year. As the school year ends, so does the term of office for our two Parent Governors. On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank Daxious Pett and Clare Hetherington for their contributions throughout the last four years, and hope they continue to support the school in other ways. I am pleased to confirm that Mrs Harmsworth and Mrs Swinburn will be joining us ready for the new academic year. I am also grateful to Mrs Baker, Mr Bushnell, Mr Kitchen, Mrs Dytham and Mrs Merrick who have all accepted the invitation to serve another term of office as co-opted/partnership governors. Despite our best efforts, we continue to have one vacancy for a Local Authority governor. We will continue to search for a suitable candidate.

The role of the Governing body is to be a critical friend to the headteacher. Our recent OFSTED inspection confirmed that the governors 'have sharpened their work in supporting senior leaders and holding them to account' but we do accept that we can further develop our oversight and challenge.

Our fundamental responsibilities are

- to hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of its pupils, and the performance management of staff

Governors continue to understand and challenge all aspects of teaching, learning and assessment, to ensure that the school is appropriately supporting and professionally developing all staff in their role of providing the outstanding education that we strive to provide for the children. We work with senior leaders to ensure that our aspirations for the children are ambitious but realistic, and that we support the social and emotional needs as well as the traditional academic needs of every child. We are continuously reviewing reports that are presented to governors, to be sure that they are informative to school leaders and teaching staff so as not to waste valuable teachers' time.

- to oversee the financial performance of the school

The school's budget continues to be an area for stringent monitoring, particularly as available funds are increasingly under pressure. Our greatest

costs are for our staffing, but we continue to support the headteacher's direction to provide as many teaching and support staff hours as possible to maximise the learning experiences for the children. We are aware of buildings maintenance and repair work that is being provided by Derbyshire County Council and are exploring funding support to enhance some outdoor learning areas and resources.

The school continues to provide 30hours in Nursery for those who qualify for additional funding and those who choose to Pay&Stay, and our Breakfast Club.

- ensuring clarity of vision and strategic direction.

It was pleasing to read that the OFSTED inspectors felt 'The school's core values of respect, enjoy and achieve permeate throughout all aspects of school life. Pupils and staff have a strong sense of belonging to a nurturing community where everyone matters.' Senior leaders and governors continue to be committed to the school's vision.

Following the installation and handover of our two new classrooms, The Thelma Smith building, we have had an increase in our admissions number. Governors are now turning their attention to the impact and needs of the school, as hopefully, the number of pupils increases over the coming years.

I continue to be very proud of all Lintonians, particularly after our well-deserved GOOD inspection result and would like to thank all of the staff who work very hard to give our children the best education they can, and to the governors who give up their time freely. If you have any comments, questions or ideas, we are always pleased to hear from you.

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