

The Governance Annual Statement
South Darley CE Primary School
Financial year 2017 – 2018

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of South Darley CE Primary School from April 2017 to March 2018.

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the South Darley CE 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 its money is well spent.

Governance Arrangements

1. The Governing Body of South Darley CE Primary School is made up of:
 - a) Two Parent governors
 - b) One LA governor
 - c) One Staff governor
 - d) One head teacher
 - e) Two foundation governors
 - f) Two co-opted governors
2. The total number of governors is 9.
3. The term of office of each governor is 4 years
4. The following are entitled to appoint foundation governors:
 - The Derby Diocesan Board of Education shall appoint 1 foundation governors on the nomination of South Darley Parochial Church Council.
5.
 - a) The holder of the following office shall be a foundation governor ex-officio:
The Rector of St Mary's Church in the Parish of South Darley (or his/her successor in title)
 - b) The foundation body or person named in paragraph 4 shall be entitled to appoint a foundation governor to act in the place of the ex-officio foundation governor whose governorship derives from the office named in a) above, in the event that the ex-officio foundation governor is unable or unwilling to act as a foundation governor, or has been removed from office under regulation 20(2) of the Regulations.
6. The Archdeacon of Chesterfield may request the removal of any ex-officio foundation governor and to appoint any substitute governor.

The range of skills required to contribute to effective governance and the success of the school are:-

- Selflessness – holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.
- Integrity – Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties

- Objectivity – In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.
- Accountability – Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office
- Openness – Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.
- Honesty – Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
- Leadership – Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.
- Enthusiasm, commitment and an interest in education

All governors should have the skills required to contribute to effective governance and the success of the school. The specific skills needed vary but experience has shown that all governors need:

- a strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children
- the inquisitiveness to question and analyse
- the willingness to learn
- good inter-personal skills
- appropriate levels of literacy in English (unless a governing body is prepared to make special arrangements),
- sufficient numeracy skills to understand basic data
- willingness to attend appropriate training and regular Full Governor and sub-committee meetings

Here at South Darley CE Primary School, Governors are asked to complete a General Skills Audit and a Financial Skills Audit once per academic year. This is used to identify any skills knowledge gaps within the Governing Body and we take steps to try to bridge any identified gap when recruiting new governors.

The Governing Body has programmes of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance.

Attendance records of Governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the Governing Body of governors' attendance at meetings. Details of attendance can be found at the bottom of this annual statement.

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

If a governor has been unable to attend a meeting but has contributed to the work of the Governing Body they can be classed as having attended a meeting. The Chair of the Governors approves any inclusion of this type within the attendance details.

The work we have done on our committees and in the Governing Body meetings includes:-

- Recruited a Teaching Assistant that meet South Darley School's high standards
- Approved and implemented the annual and 3 year School Improvement Plans which identify strategic aims of the school
- Approved the Statement of Financial Value Standards for the school
- Agreed and maintained a balanced school budget
- Reviewed, approved and adopted a number of school policies

- Reviewed and analysed pupil attainment and progress
- Reviewed health & safety processes
- Reviewed our safeguarding policies and strategies
- Conducted self-assessment audits on Health & Safety and Equality & Diversity
- Developed links with other schools through Heads and Chairs meetings

This work is captured in approved minutes of the Governing Body which are available in the School Office.

Strategic Planning for the future.

During the financial period 2018 – 2019 the Governors of South Darley CE Primary School aim to achieve the following:

To maintain “Outstanding” Ofsted grading by increasing proportion of ‘outstanding’ teaching.

- Pupil outcomes at the end of KS1 to be significantly above national averages.
- Pupil outcomes at the end of KS2 to be significantly above national averages.
- To promote the spiritual development of the school community in all that it does, in line with SIAMS.
- To develop the curriculum so that it:
 - reflects National Curriculum changes
 - ensures that pupils can demonstrate a high level of engagement and independence in learning
 - enables pupils to access local, national and global aspects of learning
 - promotes multicultural awareness
 - meets the needs of all pupils, including those who are SEND, Gifted & Talented and FSM
 - provides opportunities for increased use of ICT
- To ensure that all groups of pupils continue to be safe.
- To ensure school maintains a balanced budget and seek ways to minimise expenditure without impacting delivery
- To continue to systematically invest in site and buildings so that safeguarding and curriculum needs are met.
- To continue to develop and strengthen the roles of all stakeholders, including Governors, staff, pupils and parents, in the school improvement journey.
- Continue to develop partnerships with other schools to promote good teaching and learning practice.
- To continue to develop methods of 2-way communication with parents and the local community.
- To continue to develop the extended services and wraparound care offered to children by providing in-house and working with partner companies.
- To ensure the stability of the school despite staffing changes.
- To continue to ensure that staff and governors are aware of their duties under the Prevent strategy and promote ‘British Values’
- To ensure that the school complies with statutory government requirements as they are introduced.
- To develop the rear outdoor playground area so that it is better equipped to support our children and teachers in meeting the requirements of the EYFS and KS1/2.
- To continue grow our newly formed links with other schools through heads, chairs and cluster meetings
- To continue to develop Parent Pay to make it simpler for parents to pay for school items

How to contact your Governing Body.

Information about the School's Governing Body is available on the Governors' page of the school's website. In addition, if you require further information please contact the School Office.

The South Darley CE Primary School Governing Body

Governor	Category	Term of office Expiry date
Mr Kevin Dean	LA Governor & Chair	26.01.20
Ms Eleanor Wood	Co-Opted Governor	03.07.21
Mr Peter Siddall	Foundation Governor	25.09.21
Mr Richard Sanderson	Foundation Governor	25.09.21
Mr James Beeston	Parent Governor	26.09.20
Mrs Rachel Maynard	Co-opted Governor	01.09.20
Mr Paul Wilde	Ex-Officio (Headteacher)	Ex-officio
Mrs Anne Jordan	Parent Governor and Vice Chair	09.03.19
Miss Jennie Gill	Staff Governor	01.09.20

The South Darley CE Primary School Governors' Attendance record for April 2017 to March 2018

Governor	Attendance Rate	Apology Acceptance Rate
Mrs Anne Jordan	100%	Not applicable
Ms Eleanor Wood	100%	Not applicable
Mr Peter Siddall	91%	100%
Mr Richard Sanderson	91%	100%
Mrs Rachel Maynard	89%	100%
Mr Paul Wilde	100%	Not applicable
Mr Kevin Dean	85%	100%
Miss Jennie Gill	93%	100%
Mr James Beeston	91%	100%