



The Governance Statement 2020-2021

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of Stoke Holy Cross Primary School October 2021

The core responsibilities of Stoke Holy Cross Governing Board are identified as follows:

1. Academic standards
2. Quality of Curriculum and Teaching and Learning
3. Pupil development and behaviour
4. Attendance
5. Community Engagement

Governance arrangements

The governing board (FGB) currently has 10 members comprising of Head of School, 2 parent governors, 1 LA and 6 co-opted governors. During the course of the year 2 new governors were appointed and the FGB was re-constituted from 14 governors to 12. All business and statutory duties was carried out through the full FGB without delegation to sub-committees.

The FGB meets 9 times a year and in addition to financial, health and safety and personnel matters focuses on teaching and learning including curriculum offer, academic progress, attendance and behaviour for all pupil groups and expenditure and impact of the Pupil Premium and PE and Sports funding and staff wellbeing. Minutes of meetings include clear actions and evidence of challenge and support from governors.

See our website for a list of Governors.

Attendance record of governors

Governors attendance at meetings is recorded. All meetings planned in 2020/21 were held and no meetings were postponed due to not being "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See website for details of individual governors' annual attendance at FGB meetings. Meetings were held on Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic and government restrictions.

Dates for all meetings and SIDP objectives presentations were published on the work planner at the beginning of the school year as part of strategic overview of monitoring and accountability and were reviewed throughout the year. These presentations form an integral part of Governor monitoring throughout the year. In addition, Governors normally meet during the year with their nominated responsibility lead member of staff to monitor



	<p>progress however COVID-19 and the national lockdown, impacted on governors' ability to do this.</p>
<p>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</p>	<p>The FGB scrutinised matters pertaining to finance, personnel, premises and health and safety as well as matters relating to improving academic standards, safeguarding and Pupil Premium.</p> <p>School improvement this year has been informed by the SIDP School Improvement and Development Plan and any key issues continuing from the 2019 Ofsted Inspection.</p> <p>Governors have a clear and thorough knowledge of all school improvement work through the HOS reports to governors and data presentations. Reports to meetings lead to detailed questioning and challenge from governors. This helps to ensure that Governors are monitoring key school improvement milestones and associated timelines and holding school leaders to account for ensuring all OFSTED recommendations are addressed. This year particularly though they considered regular Risk Assessments and other HT reports regarding COVID-19</p> <p>Policy reviews this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding and Child Protection • Pay • Cyberbullying • Concerns and complaints • Leave and time-off • Performance Management for Teachers • Finance • Internet, social media and internet • Paternity leave and pay • Performance Appraisal • Publications • Whistleblowing • Intimate care • Health and Safety <p>Governors were closely involved in the annual Safeguarding review, including SCR audit, school self -review and compliance checklist and review of policy.</p> <p>Local Authority Advisers have provided additional support to the School, including the governors, since December 2019. This concluded in May 2021 when they indicated they had found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders and governors demonstrate a clear, shared understanding of school improvement priorities and necessary actions



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an effective working relationship between school leaders and governors • Governors are challenging appropriately and are consistently undertaking monitoring within the restrictions of COVID <p>Recruitment and retention of governors remains a key issue due to the resignation of governors.</p> <p>Minutes of all Governors meetings include a log of actions and any challenge raised by governors. At the end of every meeting governors are asked what have we done today to improve the education of children at Stoke Holy Cross Primary School to ensure focus remains on the FGB delegated role.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going recruitment of Governors to ensure continued effectiveness of FGB • To provide support and challenge for the Headteacher/Subject Leader and senior leaders in drive to continue school improvement • To resume in-school monitoring by governors to ensure all statutory areas and school improvement priorities are monitored effectively • To access relevant VNET support and training for governors
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/ stakeholders – please contact the Chair of Governors, via the School office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.</p>