

Hazelwood Schools

Full Governing Body Annual Statement of Impact 2023-24

Great schools need a supportive Governing Body, committed to driving improvements and encouraging, as well as challenging, the schools' leaders. Parents can find evidence of our impact in the minutes of meetings, which highlight the specific questions and challenges made by Governors during Committee meetings. These are available from the school office on request.

During the last academic year, members of the Governing Body have:

- Continued to discharge our core functions to set the strategic direction and the vision, values and ethos of the schools.
- Worked collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team on the School Improvement Plan to set the strategic direction and ensure the schools' vision and ethos is effectively translated into teaching and learning.
- Continued to oversee the management of the schools' budget sustainably, responsibly and efficiently to ensure the schools will continue to have the resources they need to meet their educational objectives in a very challenging financial environment.
- Received termly updates from the Headteacher regarding attendance, behaviour, safeguarding, attainment, staffing, teaching and learning and enrichment and discussed these in detail at the Full Governing Body meetings.
- Received regular progress updates from the school regarding mental health and wellbeing provision and the pastoral support that the school offers.
- Received regular progress updates from the Headteacher regarding the improvements made to the school environment.
- Supported the schools with the successful inspections by Ofsted in September 2023.
- Carried out our responsibilities as regards to updating current school policies and ratifying both these and any new policies.
- Supported the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team in setting the Pupil Premium and Sport Premium strategy budget and written statements.
- Supported the Headteacher in establishing an Equality Action Plan 2023-25.
- Undertook curriculum visits to the school. These have been a combination of meetings with the Senior Leadership Team, teaching staff, pupil voice discussions and reading reports and documents. Areas covered have included: maths, computing and Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

- Assisted the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team with staffing changes during the year, including attendance at interviews.
- Supported HPSA (the schools' parents' association) to strengthen our relationship with the parents and the wider community. We ensure there is always a Governor present at coffee mornings and we share a stand with HPSA during Parents' Evenings in order to discuss our role and talk to parents.
- Agreed a new Chair of Governors and two vice-chairs, and recruited new governors to fill vacancies and to ensure we have sufficient expertise in all aspects of governance: one new staff governor; one new parent governor following a parent governor election; and four new co-opted governors.
- Undertook relevant training courses, including annual safeguarding training.
- Safeguarding lead governor made termly safeguarding visits to the schools, working closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead to understand school systems, as well as meeting the School Business Manager to check the Single Central Record (SCR) regularly.
- SEND lead governor met regularly with the Inclusion Manager, SENDCo and Headteacher to receive updates about the Orchard provision and the classroom provision and support for SEND pupils throughout the school.
- The Chair and Vice-Chairs conducted the headteacher's annual appraisal and met regularly with the Headteacher throughout the year.

The Governing Body's targets for the next academic year (2024/25) include:

- Discharge our core functions to set the strategic direction and the vision, values and ethos of the schools.
- Oversee the management of the schools' budget to ensure the schools have the resources they need to meet their educational objectives.
- Support the Headteacher with the implementation of the School Improvement Plan (SIP).
- Ensure the Governing Body are fully informed and appraised of the quality of education and ongoing development of the schools. This will be achieved through learning walks, discussions with the Senior Leadership Team, subject leaders and staff (both teaching and non-teaching) and discussions with a range of pupil groups.
- Monitor safeguarding, pastoral, SEND, EAL and Pupil Premium provision throughout the schools and ensure there is evidence of impact or thorough evaluation if no impact is measurable.
- Monitor the attendance of children at Hazelwood, with a particular focus on key groups.