

## Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of Mowbray School 31 March 2017

In accordance with the government's requirements for all governing boards, the three core strategic functions of Mowbray School Governing Board are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it's money is well spent

### Governance arrangements

The Governing board of Mowbray School, reconstituted in 2015, is made up of:

- 2 Parent governors
- 1 Staff governor
- 1 Head teacher
- 1 Local Authority governor
- 7 Co-opted governors

The range of skills brought to the governing body which contribute to the effective governance and the success of the school are as follows:

- an enthusiasm to learn about and understand the work of the school and use personal skills to the benefit of the school
- an understanding of good business governance and financial management
- knowledge of education in general and a good understanding of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and the effect this has on curriculum
- the ability to interpret and understand pupil and other performance data and indicators
- experience in the well-being and safeguarding of children and health care in general
- knowledge of Buildings and Maintenance
- an awareness of Health and Safety requirements
- an understanding of personnel management
- a willingness to attend meetings, visit the school and contribute to its success

The full Governing board has a programme of 5 meetings throughout the school year and such additional meetings as prove necessary. The work of the governing body is delegated to 3 principal subcommittees as follows:

- **Business Subcommittee** which has a remit which covers Finance, Human resources, Head teacher review and general issues relating to the "business" of running Mowbray School
- **Teaching, Learning and Student well-being Subcommittee** which has the re-met of ensuring and monitoring the curriculum, the learning process and progress of students, monitoring

teacher performance and considering ways of improvement and support. The committee also considers child safeguarding and associated issues

- **Health, Safety and School well being Subcommittee** which has the remit of all issues relating to the maintenance and improvement of the fabric and facilities of the school, health and safety aspects of the school itself as well as those of its students and staff.

The Subcommittees meet on at least 3 occasions each year and such other times as may be deemed necessary. The committees report back to the Full governing board summarising the work they have undertaken and their recommendations.

During the year the following number of meetings were held:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Full Governing Board                                   | 5 |
| • Business Subcommittee                                  | 6 |
| • Teaching, Learning and Student well-being Subcommittee | 5 |
| • Health, Safety and School well-being Subcommittee      | 4 |

In addition the Chair and Vice-chair of governors have regular meetings with the Head teacher and attend other meetings as necessary with the local authority and other agencies to understand and promote key issues with regard to the improvement and development of Mowbray School.

Governors are encouraged to visit the school and take part in ‘ learning walks’ to gain a better understanding of the school.

One governor has special responsibility for pupil safeguarding issues and another governor has responsibility as a liaison for staff well-being and similar issues.

## **The work we have done through the Governing Board meetings and Governor Link Roles.**

The number of children on roll has continued to increase during the year and the governing body have been actively involved in making best use of its financial resources to ensure that the facilities within the school and the necessary staffing and management resources continue to be in place to ensure that the school is well placed to support the needs of all its students. During the year a new classroom extension was commissioned and built which came into full use at the start of the summer term 2017. With the additional classrooms the school has been able to increase the number of classes and students.

The Governing body continue to recognise the need to reinforce the management and leadership within the school and has supported the expansion of the senior leadership team.

The Governors also acknowledge the tremendous commitment of all members of staff within Mowbray School and are grateful for their individual enthusiasm and hard work.

A summer holiday scheme was run during the summer holidays in 2016 which is it is intended to enhance and repeat during the summer holidays in the forthcoming year.

The governors are determined to ensure that student outcomes are the best that can be individually achieved and are pleased that the school continues to perform exceptionally well. This is reflected not only at each key stage but also in examination success. The governors were also pleased that during the year the school was re-accredited with the Investors in the Pupils award

The governors believe they have in place a robust structure to ensure the necessary links are in place to monitor performance at all levels and identify areas where additional resources are necessary

The work of the governing board is summarised in the minutes of its meetings which are available through the school office.

## **Strategic Planning for the future**

Within the existing financial constraints the governors' priority for the forthcoming year is to ensure best use of the extended teaching and learning facilities now available and support the leadership team by ensuring that there are sufficient resources available to overcome the challenges presented by an increasing school population thereby ensuring that students continue to achieve the best personal outcomes possible. In support of the increased number of Teachers and support staff, work will commence during the forthcoming year on the construction of a staffroom extension and additional offices with the intention of improving the facilities available to all members of staff.

The Governing body are acutely aware that despite increasing the size of the school and number of students that demand considerably exceeds the places available. This is a difficult challenge which will have to be addressed during the forthcoming year.

In recognition of Government policy with regard to Academy status the governing board will continue its work to fully understand and determine the value of such an arrangement and continue its discussions with other schools with similar interests. No final decision will be made without confidence and necessary assurance that such an arrangement will be for the benefit of the students of Mowbray School and a full consultation with Parents, the local authority, the DfE and other stakeholders.

## **How to contact your Governing Board**

Information about the school's Governing Board is available on the governors' page of the school's website

## **Mowbray School Governing Board – Membership**

	<b>Category</b>	<b>Start date</b>	<b>End date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Robert Dunning	Co-opted	01 Sep 2014	31 Aug 2018	Chair
Cherie Miles	Co-opted	28 Sep 2014	27 Sep 2018	Vice-chair

Helen Peacock	Co-opted	28 Sep 2013	27 Sep 2017	
Fiona Pearman	Co-opted	04 Dec 2012	03 Dec 2016	Staff link
David Siddall	Co-opted	31 Aug 2014	30 Aug 2018	
Andrew Wilkinson	Co-opted	01 Sep 2015	31 Aug 2019	
David Yea	Co-opted	30 Sep 2014	29 Sep 2018	
Jonathan Tearle	Headteacher	n/a	n/a	
Anne Herbert	Local Authority	01 Sep 2013	31 Aug 2017	Safeguarding link
Simon Holden	Parent	21 Apr 2015	20 Apr 2019	
Jen Berry	Parent	28 Nov 2017	27 Nov 2021	
Angela Staple	Staff	21 Apr 2015	20 Apr 2019	
Karen Pickles	Associate	14 Mar 2017	13 Mar 2018	

On 14 March 2017 Karen Pickles, the Deputy Headteacher, became an Associate Member of the Governing body for 1 year. It was believed that her knowledge and involvement in the leadership of the school would provide invaluable support in particular to the Teaching, Learning and Student well-being Subcommittee to which she was appointed.

### **Mowbray School Governors' Attendance record for 2016/17**

	Number of FGB Meetings attended (out of 5 meetings in total)
Robert Dunning	4
Cherie Miles	4
Helen Peacock	4
Fiona Pearman	3
David Siddall	5
Andrew Wilkinson	1
David Yea	2
Jonathan Tearle	5
Anne Herbert	5
Simon Holden	4
Jen Berry*	3
Angela Staple	5
Karen Pickles+	1

\*Jen Berry became a governor at November 2016 meeting and therefore could have attended a maximum of 4 meetings over the year.

+Karen Pickles became an Associate member at the March 2017 meeting and attended the March 2017 meeting.

**Please note** this does not reflect attendance at subcommittee meetings, visits to school, learning walks, separate non scheduled meetings, training and attendance at panel meetings.