

Governors' Core Function / Impact Statement 2016/2017

At Halton Lodge Primary School the Headteacher and the Governing Body work closely to deliver our unified shared vision of **Happy Learning Promotes Success**.

The role of the school governor centres on the following three core functions:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos/values and strategic direction;**
- 2. Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

Although not directly involved in the day-to-day running of the school, governors along with the Headteacher, are ultimately responsible for ensuring the delivery of the highest standard of education for **ALL** pupils in our care.

The governing body are constantly striving to improve and develop the school. This was recognised by OFSTED in their latest report.

“The governing body now has the combined skills to analyse accurately the effectiveness of all aspects of the school. It can give good advice and support. Most significantly, governors can challenge the Headteacher and other key leaders to ensure that educational provision continues to improve.”

Ofsted September 2016

Governors appreciate too the requirements of our children's parents / carers and their need to be satisfied about the overall leadership and management of the school and how it affects safety, attainment and pupils enjoyment of learning. Consequently, governors continually evaluate the role they have played within the life of the school and have committed to publish all relevant information to interested parties.

The following report forms part of that evaluation and publication process.

GOVERNOR CORE FUNCTION	KEY TOPICS AND GOVERNOR ACTIVITIES IN 2016/2017	IMPACT OF GOVERNOR INVOLVEMENT – WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS IT MADE?
Setting the vision and strategic direction of the school	School vision, aims and Christian values. School Development Planning	School vision, aims and British values statements have been created and embedded across the school. Strong links coexist between the school, community and parents Governors work co-operatively with the headteacher and senior management in the writing and monitoring the Strategic School Improvement Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is set out with clear measurable aims, key tasks which must be completed in order to achieve those objectives and the success criteria in order to evaluate results. The SSIP is monitored and review termly, with an evaluation overview being completed and presented to governors

	<p>Governing Board powers and statutory responsibilities.</p> <p>Setting the Performance Management Targets</p> <p>Appointing key staff members.</p> <p>Agreeing policies and procedures</p>	<p>alongside the Headteacher’s Report to Governors.</p> <p>Governors robust questioning (as evidenced in the Full Governing Body / Committee minutes) and analyzing of data trends, ensures action plans are focused on the key result areas.</p> <p>All governors are aware of their statutory responsibilities and undertake regular training sessions courtesy of the Local Authority Governance Team and via external providers.</p> <p>In 2016/17 Governors received training in Governors Roles and Responsibilities, WRAP, Finance, Safeguarding, and Understanding School Data including RAISE online.</p> <p>Headteacher’s targets are set on an annual basis and are reviewed regularly. Quality assurance arrangements are in place to ensure performance management targets are linked with those for school improvement, school self-evaluation and the school development plan.</p> <p>A select number of governors have completed safer recruitment training to ensure appointments are made as per Local Authority guidelines.</p> <p>Whenever possible, governors participate in the selection of all teaching staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff who share the schools aims are appointed. Governors were pleased to announce the appointment of Mr N Gallagher to Halton Lodge Primary School, as Premises Manager, in 2017 – and took a key role in the recruitment of the Deputy Headteacher at the same time.</p> <p>Governors have undertaken a comprehensive review of policies and procedures. Specific attention has been paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list.</p>
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<p>Holding the Headteacher to account for the schools educational performance</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of data / reports including the use of RAISE online</p> <p>Visits to the school to monitor attainment and the implementation of improvement strategies e.g learning walks and book scrutinies.</p> <p>Parent, Pupil and Staff Feedback</p>	<p>Data reports have been considered by the whole Governing Body. This regular and detailed analysis by governors has enabled governors with the schools leadership team to identify school strengths / weaknesses and where appropriate to actively challenge the Headteacher to ensure robust systems are in place to address any areas requiring improvement. Particular scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and on the effective use of the Pupil and Sports Premium Funding.</p> <p>Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring program. The Headteacher has an open door policy for governor visits. Governors considered visits as a valuable opportunity to be able to work closely with staff members, track pupil progress and seek pupils' feedback on school improvement strategies.</p> <p>Linked governor/subject visits have taken place throughout the academic year.</p> <p>Calling ourselves to account - ALL Governor visits are documented in the automated signing in system; a record of each visit is held in school governor file. The feedback / impact reports are noted and assessed during Committee and Full Governing Body meetings.</p> <p>Governors have also accompanied school visits to gain an insight into enrichment and cross curricular links. Governors were proud to witness the outstanding behaviour by our pupils at the recent Chester Zoo visit.</p> <p>Governors value and welcome all feedback.</p> <p>Governors review all pupil, staff and parental feedback submitted via pupil voice, questionnaires and direct engagement for example at key events such as Parents' Evenings.</p>
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If you wish to contact the governing board regarding any aspect of this impact statement please direct all correspondence via the School Business Manager at Halton Lodge Primary School - sec.haltonlodge@halton.gov.uk