

LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021-22

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Lionel Walden Primary School throughout the course of the 2021-22 academic year.

Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance

The Instrument of Government for Lionel Walden Primary School allows for 9 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 9, with the Deputy Headteacher also attending, as an Associate member.

Through the course of the 21-22 Academic Year, the Governing Body has had 2 governors come to the end of their term, elections were held as there were 3 applicants; with 2 new governors appointed within the Parent Governor category.

Over the course of the 2021-22 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Joanne Dale.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Mrs L Clarke, as Clerk to Governors.

Over the course of the year, Governors at Lionel Walden Primary School demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work. Further information about governor attendance can be found on the school website.

The Structure of Governance

As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, Lionel Walden Primary School also has three committees, in order to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage. The school names these committees as:

- Appointments Committee – which deals with recruitment.
- Finance Committee – which mainly deals with the budget, Pupil Premium income and expenditure and finances.
- School Improvement Committee – which deals with curriculum, assessment and data, SEND and impact of all interventions.

These committees and the Governing Body overall have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility. They also have responsibility for the Headteacher's Performance Review.

The School's priorities as outlined in the School Development Plan are:

- To continue to improve outcomes in Reading across the school
- To continue to improve outcomes in Writing across the school
- To continue to improve outcomes in Mathematics across the school
- To continue to ensure our Curriculum is broad and balanced

- To continue to improve outcomes of specific pupil groups (including vulnerable groups and the more able)
- To continue providing high-quality SEND provision.

Each priority is led by a member of the teaching staff who is a point of contact for a named link Governor. There are also named Governors for Safeguarding and Health & Safety (including Child Health and Attendance), SEND and Early Years.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or appeals are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to:

- Supporting the school's recovery plans post-covid, ensuring that the Catch-Up Premium is utilised effectively
- Supporting the school's review of security and improvements around the site
- Performing Monitoring Visits and writing a report which is shared with the Full Governing Body
- Appointing a new Headteacher for September 2022 following resignation of current Headteacher.

Impact of the work of the Appointments Committee

Over the course of the last academic year, the Appointments Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to:

- Reviewing the staffing when there is staff movement
- Shortlisting and interviewing
- To successfully appoint a new Office Manager, 4 new Teaching Assistants and a Midday Supervisor.

Impact of the work of the Finance Committee

Over the course of the last academic year, the Finance Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to:

- Setting a budget, to ensure funds are available for the needs of the school
- Monitoring the budget, to ensure it is kept on track
- Reviewing the income and expenditure at the end of the financial year
- Ensuring that the Catch-Up Premium is invested effectively to provide optimum impact upon children's learning and recovery

School Improvement Committee:

Due to Covid-19 the School Improvement Committee has not met separately, however the areas which it covers have been discussed fully within the Full Governor Body Meetings:

- Ensuring the pupils' social, emotional and mental wellbeing continues to be a priority, especially following the effects of the pandemic
- Ensuring that all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and make good progress across all subjects but particularly within the core subjects
- Promoting improved attendance for children within school, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds

Governor Training

Our Governors have a wealth of knowledge and experience. We benefit from our different backgrounds and life-experience and considerations within meetings. The Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- Safeguarding – in order to effectively fulfil our duties in quality assuring the safeguarding arrangements for all children at Lionel Walden Primary School.
- LA Briefings – in order to remain up to date with latest Local Authority information regarding the approaches towards safe school reopening.
- Governor Conference – hearing from different people around the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Area sharing key information and updates.

Governor Monitoring

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the School Development Plan).

Throughout the course of this year, all named Governors have undertaken at least one particular monitoring in relation to their area; Safeguarding; Reading; Writing; Maths; The Curriculum; Pupil Premium; SEND and Early Years.

Forward Planning

The Governing Body looks forward to working with a new Headteacher. We welcome the return of events that had been put on hold during the pandemic. Work in the forthcoming academic year will include;

- Utilising the Safeguarding training provided by the LA
- Ensuring that the school is suitably prepared for OFSTED inspection

- Providing continued oversight regarding the impact of expenditure upon children's outcomes
- To support the implementation and embedding of a new writing scheme (The Write Stuff) and monitor the impact

Other information and contact

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at www.lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk. This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to chair@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk or to the Clerk to the Governing Body via email to office@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk.

Due to the impact of Covid-19, our entire School Development Plan is underpinned by the need to ensure all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and make good progress across all subjects but particularly within the core subjects. We are continuing to use PiXL across the school to complement our Recovery Curriculum. The School Development Plan includes details on how this will be addressed. Support for pupils' social, emotional and mental wellbeing continues to be a priority.