

**LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022-23**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Lionel Walden Primary School throughout the course of the 2022-23 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 2022-2023 Academic Year, the Governing Body has had 1 parent governor come to the end of their term. Elections were held as there were 2 applicants; with a new governor appointed; unfortunately this was not successful and they resigned shortly afterwards. This led to a review of the Governor Application and Induction process which has delayed the replacement of the Parent Governor; one of the new parent governors has resigned in July so an advert will be placed at the start of the academic term for 2 new parent governors.

Over the course of the 2022-23 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Joanne Dale.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Mrs E Stratford, 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 – this committee deals with recruitment.
- Finance Committee – this committee mainly deals with the budget, Pupil Premium income and expenditure and finances.
- School Improvement Committee – these were restructured to support the Link Governors Monitoring areas.

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.

There is a separate Appraisal Committee that has responsibility for the Headteacher's Performance Review.

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

- To improve the quality and consistency of approach of the teaching of writing across the school
- To embed the Maths Mastery approach to the teaching of maths
- To improve the use of assessment systems to ensure that targeted support leads to improvements for learners.

Other priorities include:

- To continue to develop the STEPs approach to build prosocial behaviours and positive attitudes and commitments to learning.
- To continue to develop approaches that foster responsible and respectful attitudes.
- To continue to focus on raising attendance, improving punctuality and working together with families to foster productive partnerships.
- To strengthen early reading skills through a systematic and rigorous programme of phonics teaching and children's oracy skills so that they can express themselves fluently and communicate effectively with others.

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, Pupil Premium 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:

- Updates to various IT systems, new website, school Facebook, MIS and Cloud based systems and Quick Links page.
- Improved site security with new foyer entrance, perimeter fencing and new security gates.
- Embedding of The Write Stuff; Implementation a new phonics programme – FFT Success for All including Tutoring with the Lightening Squad.
- Successful Ofsted report

### **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
- Successfully appointing a Relief Teacher, new Catering Assistant, a new Teaching Assistant and a new Cleaner.

### **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**

This year this committee looked in more depth in the areas with Link Governors. Information was shared before Monitoring Visits took place to improve the monitoring process and increase understanding. Areas included: Writing, Reading and Phonics, Safeguarding and Health & Safety, Maths and Science (STEM), SEND, Pupil Premium, Early Years and Curriculum.

### **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;

- Governor Induction and training on Link Governor areas to help Governors prepared for their role.
- 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 developing further the areas in the School Development Plan. Work in the forthcoming academic year will include:

- development of technology to support teaching and learning.
- continued development of writing to support independence and assessment.
- improving oracy across the curriculum with a focus on maths and the development of reasoning skills.
- Providing continued oversight regarding the impact of expenditure upon children's outcomes
- development of maths: oracy and reasoning skills.
- development of the wider curriculum to ensure that there is rationale and coherence to it.
- development of Forest school in the Early Years and KS1

## **Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at [www.lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk](http://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](mailto:chair@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk) or to the Clerk to the Governing Body via email to [estratford@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:estratford@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk).