

Bratton Primary School

Annual Statement of Governance 2015-2016

I wrote in my previous Annual Statement that 2014-15 had been 'a year of great change', and 2015-16 has brought even more. We have seen the new vision for the school, as laid out in the School Development Plan, being implemented throughout the year, resulting in the embedding of new behaviours and approach to learning.

The topic of Academies has been high on the political agenda, and we have been involved in learning more about how they work, and the implications for schools of joining or otherwise. We have decided that now is not the right time for Bratton School to join a Multi Academy Trust locally, but will continue to talk to other schools about future plans and review the situation.

The Governing Body has seen further change, saying goodbye to some long standing governors. We have been very successful in recruiting new governors this year, and have welcomed new governors who bring with them a broad spectrum of experience and knowledge, including significant teaching and leadership skills. We have made some changes to the responsibilities of the committees to help balance governor workloads, with the previous Staffing committee responsibilities now being split between the Teaching, Learning and Assessment committee; and the Resources committee.

Marion Grout
Chair of Governors

Achieving the Governing Body's Responsibilities

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Perfect Primary School Governing Body are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
 - Throughout the year, we have supported Ian in the implementation of the School Improvement Plan, and worked on the development of an updated plan for the forthcoming academic year.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
 - Governors regularly review data published about the educational performance, and these drive challenging questions at Governing Body and Committee meetings. Governors have also used monitoring and link governor visits to understand what happens in the classrooms and to get to know the teachers and pupils. The Head has set up sessions for governors to attend to understand specific areas such as planning, which helped ensure that visits have been structured, resulting in some valuable insights.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
 - The Resources committee monitor the budget at every meeting, approving spend and approving the school budget to ensure it aligns with the strategic vision.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body is made up of:

- 2 staff governors (including the Head)
- 1 LA governor
- 8 Co-opted governors
- 2 Parent governors

The governing body is made up of people who bring a broad variety of skills and perspectives (teachers, leadership, commercial, parent views, staff views). We meet as a full body once each term. There are two permanent committees (Resources, and Teaching, Learning and Assessment) which work in detail on specific elements of the Governing Body's responsibilities. There are also temporary panels set up as required, for example the Pay Panel meet as required to support more infrequent activities. Governors have also supported staff recruitment over the course of the year.

In addition to this, governors take on Link Governor roles – coming into school to get to know the staff and pupils, and using link and monitoring visits to get to know a curriculum area in detail and see the work in practice.

Governor Attendance

Both committee and FGB meetings are very well attended; and we have not had to cancel any due to non-quorate attendance. Details of individual governors' attendance are on the final page.

The work our committees have done this year

Teaching Learning and Assessment Committee

The TLA Committee focuses on monitoring and maximising the teaching, learning and assessment aspects of the school, with particular focus on the priorities identified in the School Improvement Plan. Last year, we:

- monitored the successful implementation of the new National Curriculum framework and a new and rigorous assessment system
- developed a new system for scrutinising data within the new assessment system
- examined the progress and attainment of all our pupils
 - considered the impact of the school's strategies for supporting vulnerable pupils;
 - considered the impact of the intervention strategies being used to support our pupil premium pupils;
 - discussed successful changes to the learning ethos of the school
 - received reports about the performance management within the school;
- saw significant improvements in the learning environments across the school
- discussed and updated a range of policies to support the running of the school
- monitored the way PE funding brought sporting opportunities to pupils

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee has met each term and has:

- Overseen the financial performance of the school, ensuring that the money was well spent and monitored the budget over the course of the year;
- Reviewed and approved the school budget;
- Monitored the condition of the school premises and considered options for improvements;
- Ensured that the school complies with health and safety regulations;
- Actively supported the school for the appointment of Renee Pardoe as Bursar.

Contacting the Governing Body

We always welcome feedback, suggestions and ideas from parents, carers, staff and anyone else with a connection to the school – please get in touch with me via email governors@bratton.wilts.sch.uk or via the school office. Minutes of our meetings are available if you would like to read them.

Governor Roles & Attendance: Bratton Primary School 2015-16

Name	Remit on Governing Body	Appointing Body	Date of appointment/ Term of Office/ Date stepped down	Relevant Business and Pecuniary Interest	Governance Roles in other educational Institutions	Material interest arising from relationships between governors or between governors and staff	Attendance FGB and Committee meeting 2015-16	
Ian Bolton	Headteacher Resources Committee Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body	13 Apr 2015	None	None	None	FGB	6/6
							R TLA	5/6 4/5
Alison Callaway	Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	22 May 2014 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	3/6
							TLA	4/5
Maria Denham	Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Staff	20 Sep 2013 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	5/6
							TLA	4/5
Simon Gray	Chair of Resources Committee	Governing Body	1 Dec 2014 4 Years	None	None	Spouse a member of staff	FGB	6/6
							R	6/6
Marion Grout	Chair of Governors Resources Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	22 May 2014 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	6/6
							R	6/6
Amanda Jazrawy	Vice Chair of Governors Chair of Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body Authority	9 Feb 2015 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	6/6
							TLA	5/5
Lisa Noad	Resources Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	1 Dec 2014 2015 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	3/6
							R	6/6
Christine Ramsay	Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	22 May 2014 4 Years 31 Dec 2015	None	None	None	FGB	2/2
							TLA	2/2

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Tristan Smart	Resources Committee	Parents	16 Mar 2015 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	3/6
							R	3/6
Amy Sealy	Resources Committee	Governing Body Associate Member - No voting rights	8 Oct 2013 4 Years	None	None	None	Maternity Leave	
Eloise Kane	Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	28 Sep 2015 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	5/6
							TLA	5/5
Martin Mangan	Teaching, Learning & Assessment Committee	Governing Body Co-opted	28 Sep 2015 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	5/6
							R	4/6
							TLA	2/5
Nicola Duke		Governing Body Associate Member – No Voting rights	21 Mar 2016 1 Year	None	None	None	FGB	0/2
							Com	0/1
Sarah Moore		Governing Body Co-opted	23 May 2016 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	2/2
							R	1/1
Angela Forbes		Governing Body Co-opted	11 July 2016 4 Years	None	None	None	FGB	1/1
							Com	0/0