

Rise Park Primary and Nursery School

Governing Body Impact Statement July 2023



Introduction

Rise Park Primary and Nursery School is a local authority-maintained school. The governing body is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers willing to use their skills and experience to support and challenge the Headteacher in her challenging role and ensure the school is well managed. They make a positive contribution to the school and the wider society.

The Department for Education requires governors to place strong focus on three core strategic functions:

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

This impact statement summarises their role in the development of our school and its pupils over the past year.

General role of the Governing Body

Training

All members of the governing body take part in appropriate training. The impact of this is that the governing body keep updated. Learning and actions from training is shared at the full governing body meetings and can be put into practice during visits to school.

Headteacher Appraisal

The Governing Body carries out the Head Teacher Appraisal annually. Selected Governors have undertaken Head Teacher's Appraisal Training, and the appraisal is carried out with expert assistance from an independent educational advisor. The appraisal process allows us to look closely at the performance of the Head Teacher, have discussions about areas of strengths and where necessary, areas for development. New targets are then set against criteria which the Head Teacher's performance will be evaluated.

Nottingham Schools Trust – The school continues to get good value for money for membership of the trust. It has supported other schools as well as staff being able to access training. We receive termly reports of the trust's performance and support at full governing body meetings.

Finance –The Finance Committee monitors and plans carefully with the headteacher for any large expenditures and also reviews the budget in detail each term. They track income and expenditure throughout the year to ensure the school can afford to continue its promise of excellent education.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding link governor meets termly with the Head as Designated Safeguarding Lead, to review and evaluate the proactiveness of the school’s safeguarding procedures and reports back on these to the full governing body. The head also reports on safeguarding at each full governing body meeting and pupils, personnel and curriculum meeting.

Link Governors

Link Governors have responsibility for specific areas of interest within the school. Each governor has an identified member of staff with whom to liaise about his/her area of interest. They also undertake monitoring visits, including separate meetings with key staff. The Chair meets with the Headteacher on a regular basis to discuss a wide range of issues, including staffing, Safeguarding and Health and Safety.

Progress and Attainment – data for all children across the school, including vulnerable groups, has been analysed. Data focuses on reading, writing and maths. Analysis is completed at varying levels. The impact of this is that governors are aware of how children in year groups, pupil premium, high ability or boys/girls are performing and where there are issues. It also ensures that the Governing Body knows throughout the year how the school is progressing towards the school priorities and targets and we do this by asking challenging questions. They are kept informed about the use of the catch-up programme for the children.

Priorities for 2023-2024

- Improve Outcomes in Maths to increase attainment and progress in KS2.
- Develop staff to be effective leader and improve the impact of their subject.
- Develop theme of the outdoor environment across EYFS to provide appropriate levels of challenge for all children.

Committees

Each term all governors are invited to attend on sub-committee (eg. Finance and General Purposes) and one Full Governing Body.

In addition, Governors may also attend monitoring visits at the school; the purpose of this is determined by areas of focus on the School Improvement Priority plan. For example, meeting with staff members, reviewing behaviour, observing teaching and learning, talking with pupils or progress in books. The impact of this is that governors understand and gain knowledge in areas of strengths and weakness in teaching and practices within the school.

This school year the full governing body and committee meetings have been a mixture of in person and online and have been very well attended. Governors make a commitment to attend.

Health and Safety

The health and safety governor makes termly visits to the school in person and reports any problems to the site manager and the Headteacher. These are discussed at the full governing body meeting.

Governing body and committee meeting attendance as a percentage: 91.76%