

Statement of Governance – Rackheath Primary School

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of Rackheath Primary School July 2016

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Rackheath Primary School Governing Board are:

1. **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
2. **Holding the leadership team to account for the management of the school and the achievement of its pupils;**
3. **Managing the school budget effectively, making sure money is wisely spent for maximum impact on pupil outcomes.**

Governance arrangements

The Governing Board of Rackheath Primary School was re-constituted in the spring term 2015 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 4 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 3 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Board and are people who, in the opinion of the governing board, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The full Governing Board meets once each term, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At Rackheath Primary we have a **Learning Committee**, which focuses on curriculum delivery and outcomes for children, an **Environment Committee**, which focuses on areas outside the curriculum, including premises and the wider community and a **Finance Committee** for budgetary matters. We also have committees that meet as and when required to consider personnel and pay issues.

See p3 for a list of Governors.

Attendance record of governors

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).

See p4 for details of individual governors’ attendance at meetings.

The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body

In the last twelve months the Governing Board has overseen the appointment of two new TAs to enhance our teaching team. We have also overseen the spending of several thousands of pounds on new learning resources.

The Learning Committee has regularly monitored the delivery of the new curriculum and governors also discuss key data giving the results of pupil achievement and progress, so that we can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its ambitious targets for all pupils. Our recent statutory test results met and exceeded the robust targets set by governors with the headteacher. We also regularly monitor our “vulnerable groups” of children and focus on how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes.

The Environment Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, issues and analyses the annual parent questionnaire and makes recommendations to the school about areas for improvement as well as promoting the school within the community. Our Health and Safety Governor carries out regular checks of the premises with the headteacher.

This year we were part of a successful Cluster Capacity and Development bid. As part of that, all schools in our cluster accessed ongoing Thrive training and were given an additional £5000 to use to enhance our family/wellbeing provision. As we have established systems and a PSA already in place, we have used our funding to make the inclusion room a much more pleasant space by investing in new furniture and adding a mural to the wall.

Governors are also responsible for the safeguarding of pupils and receive an annual report from the headteacher. Our nominated safeguarding governor undertakes rigorous monitoring to ensure all safeguarding procedures are in place and followed. All governors undergo safeguarding training.

Early in the summer term, the Finance Committee approved the 2016/17 budget plan for the school: we are pleased to report that the school is in a healthy position financially and as well as employing extra members of staff, we are able to invest in quality resources for science, art, music and other subjects. We are also

	<p>revamping our KS1 outdoor spaces and will be looking into the possibility of funding an outdoor canopy outside the yr5/6 block.</p> <p>One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies, including the Behaviour Policy and Attendance Policy. We have also revised Single Equality Scheme, ensuring equal opportunities for all.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Board and Committee meetings are public documents – you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>It is the aim of this governing board to support the school in all aspects of its work and to obtain the Outstanding grading we know we are capable of, thereafter maintaining and developing the school as an establishment of educational excellence.</p> <p>As a school we aim to support the headteacher and staff to provide outstanding teaching in all classes and provide a rich and varied curriculum with opportunities across all subjects for every child.</p> <p>It is the duty of the governing body to consider the strategic future of the school and explore all possibilities for the future, such as partnership, federation and academisation. This year we will continue to conduct full research into the best future for the school under the current political agenda.</p> <p>Future spending plans: our commitment to ICT resources is ongoing and this year we have budgeted an additional £20,000 to develop and extend our curriculum resources across all subjects. As with most years, the school will undergo a summer programme of redecoration and the carpets will be deep cleaned to keep our school a pleasant place to work and learn.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing board</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact Emma Watts, Chair of Governors, via the school office.</p>

Rackheath Primary School Governing Board

Governor

Emma Watts (Chair)

Jason Pilbrow (Vice Chair) (Chair of Learning Committee)

Angela St Hill

Ben Orme

Stuart Brown (Chair of Finance Committee)

Chris Ashman

Claire Dampier (Chair of Environment Committee)

Helen Grogutt

Maxine Wooltorton

Andrea Spooner

James Cavender

Brian Gardner

Category

Co-Opted Governor

Co-Opted Governor

Parent Governor

Parent Governor

Parent Governor

Head Teacher

Parent Governor

Staff Governor

Co-Opted Governor

LA Governor

Co-opted Governor

Partnership Governor, Health and Safety