



## GOVERNOR IMPACT STATEMENT

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the 2022/23 Academic year draws to a close, we would like to take this chance to share some of the ways in which we have been involved with the school over the year.

Governors are often described as ‘critical friends’; we support the school to achieve the best possible outcomes for the children in its care, while ensuring that it remains financially sound and that there is sufficient clarity in the school’s ethos and vision. We are accountable to all school stakeholders and in this statement we will set out who we are and how we have carried out our responsibilities over the past year.

### **The membership of the governing body**

The WBIS Governing Body consists of 15 people made up of a mix of staff, parents, ex-parents and members of the wider community. Our role is to support but also challenge school leadership. Ms Stevens is responsible for the operational management of the school and as governors we help provide strategic vision and leadership support.

We hold two meetings per term: one has a focus on Standards / Strategy, the other focuses on Finance. The full board meet at each of these meetings. This has been our first full year of in-person meetings held in school after several years of hybrid meetings.

We access administrative support, training and clerking through Nottingham City Council’s Governor Services.

The current membership of the governing body is as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
<b>Claire Hughes</b>	Chair of Governing Body, co-opted
<b>Liz Plant</b>	Vice Chair, Local Authority governor
<b>Zoe Gingele</b>	Co-opted
<b>Fiona Stevens</b>	Head Teacher
<b>Jatinder Hanspal</b>	Co-opted
<b>Gayle Cutts</b>	Staff governor
<b>Pamela Dinsdale</b>	Co-opted governor (also a member of staff)
<b>Peter Yard</b>	Co-opted
<b>Catherine McGarva</b>	Co-opted
<b>Rachel Ayrton</b>	Co-opted
<b>Charlie Davis</b>	Parent governor
<b>Steve Brooks</b>	Co-opted
<b>Silvia Bordoni</b>	Co-opted

Jenny Stewart	Co-opted
Lauren Gimson	Parent governor

This year, we've been thrilled to welcome Jenny Stewart as a co-opted Governor and Lauren Gimson as a new parent governor. Peter will be stepping down from his role at the end of this term and we would like to extend our thanks for his invaluable input during his term. As a consequence, we will be announcing a parent governor election in due course.

### **Vision, Values & Ethos**

At the centre of all of our work as a board and the day to day life in school is a commitment to upholding the school's vision and values:

'Working together to ensure our children are safe, happy and healthy. Ready to learn, ready for life, ready to shine'

As a board we have several ways in which we monitor alignment with this statement:

- Our named Safeguarding Governor works closely with the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school to complete the annual Safeguarding checklist which is an extensive tool to help evaluate our compliance. We also perform regular checks on the Single Central Record and complete file checks
- Annually the school complete a child questionnaire and as a board we are able to access this data and challenge provision in regards to the well-being of children
- Our named Health & Safety Governor works closely with the Head and Site Manager to complete bi-annual reviews of the school premises
- As a board, we review and challenge all policies and procedures that are implemented across school
- We visit the school regularly to see and hear from the staff and children

Our Shine Brightly themes are a key part of school life and create a recognisable, age appropriate set of value statements for our children. This year, we created a smaller working group within the Board to collaborate with West Bridgford Junior School examining our shared values and vision. This allows us to explore how we can ensure a smooth transition between YR2 and YR3 and also better understand curriculum progression.

### **School Development**

The School Development Plan [SDP] is a key document and progress is reviewed against milestones at all Standards meetings. The core priorities for our SDP this year were:

- Quality of Education - To continue to secure excellent teaching and curriculum provision so that children maximise gains in knowledge and achieve deep and lasting learning

- Behaviour & Attitudes / Personal Development - To embed and further enhance our provision of wider spiritual and cultural opportunities so that children develop sound moral values and cultural capital that prepares them for success in their future
- Outcomes for children - To ensure that provision meets the needs of the children and enables them to make good progress from their starting points and acquire the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the next stage in learning
- Early Years Education - To review and enhance the quality of EYFS provision to ensure that our children have an excellent start to learning and develop key skills, knowledge and attitudes that provide a solid foundation for future success
- Leadership & management - To maintain and further develop strong leadership at all levels that provides clarity of vision, sets high expectations and enables children and staff to thrive and be their best

Within each of these top level priorities sit a series of actions that are then RAG rated - each action is highlighted in either red, amber or green to reflect progress based upon agreed milestone dates. Those actions highlighted in red are in danger of not being completed by the agreed date, amber reflecting some concerns and green being that the objective is on track to meet the timeline.

These priorities are reviewed as part of the Head Teacher's Report which we receive at termly Standards meetings. This year we have changed our process to invite Governors to review progress in the SDP objectives and any other area of interest in the report in advance of the meeting and to submit questions to Ms Stevens. This allows more time for reflection and a broader range of responses. These questions and the Head Teacher's responses are minuted.

For the 2023/24 academic year, the Chair of Governors has been involved in early planning of the SDP and will continue to meet with the Senior Leadership team as the document takes shape in the Autumn term.

### **Governor monitoring & evaluation**

As a Governing Board, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to access the school to undertake monitoring and observe the school in action on a regular basis. As a whole board, committees or as individuals we have undertaken the following over the year:

- Safeguarding Governor has completed annual checklist and file checks
- Health & Safety Governor has completed bi-annual premises reviews
- Finance Governor and committee scrutinise budget, financial decision making and supply costs
- SEND Governor meets frequently with SENCo
- Pay Committee meet to review Head Teacher recommendations for pay reviews
- Appraisal Committee meet to ensure Head Teacher appraisal is completed to the required standard

- Termly scrutiny of assessment data to ensure progress
- Termly update on Senior leadership team monitoring / observations
- Governor attendance at the recent Maths workshop evening
- Chair of Governors involved in appointment of Office Manager and Admin Assistant

On Thursday 6th July, 8 Governors attended Governor Day in school with an agenda which allowed us observe the following:

- Phonics, spelling and grammar provision across all 3 years
- Opportunity to meet with groups of children to discuss their class floor books [which reference their topics and work undertaken over the year]
- Interventions in place for children with English as an additional language
- Subject leadership meetings for Science, History & Geography and Phonics

In addition to this, the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors meet regularly to discuss any issues.

### **Looking to the future**

As we move into another academic year, in which we expect an Ofsted inspection, ensuring we continue to operate at highest of levels is important to us. To further develop the depth and breadth of our Board, the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors recently met to discuss expanding our 'links' - this is where an individual is named as a contact for a particular area and will take ownership of any statutory responsibilities or work with their school based counterpart to form a more detailed understanding via monitoring and observations.

Many of these links are derived from the priority areas in the SDP and the Ofsted framework and will allow us to drive improvement forward in a range of areas. With many links now named we hope to begin a full cycle of monitoring activities in the Autumn term.

Whilst finances continue to be an area we are closely monitoring as cost increases persist and funding is uncertain, we are thankful for a dedicated PTA team who have run a series of events that have been loved by the children and generate income for the school. Thank you all for supporting the PTA and the school.

As a Board we are keen to ensure we continue to nurture the collaborative projects we have in place with West Bridgford Junior school and expand on the excellent work already being undertaken across the Senior Leadership teams and Subject Leader groups in both schools. As two members of our board also sit on the West Bridgford Juniors board, this affords us the opportunity to better understand how we can work together. The school also works collaboratively with a group of other non-academy schools and fosters various relationships with a broad range of other schools and organisations.

To continuously improve, as a Board, we access a training package from Nottingham City Council which allows for development in a variety of areas including Safeguarding [all Governors must now

undertake this training], understanding data, finance in challenging times, staff & pupil wellbeing, performance management and how to support and challenge. All of our new Governors have accessed a comprehensive induction package.

We are privileged to have the support of a dedicated team of staff at West Bridgford Infants and are fortunate to have had the opportunity to witness firsthand how engaged, polite and animated the children are in all interactions we've had with them. We would like to take the opportunity to thank them and you for your support over the year and wish you a restful Summer.

Kind regards

Claire Hughes

Chair of Governors