



Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Avenue Junior School July 2016

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

1. **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
2. **Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;**
3. **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

Governance arrangements	<p>The Governing Body of Avenue Junior School was re-constituted in 2013 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 5 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 8 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body one of the Co-opted governors is a parent, one is a staff member and the remaining six are members of the local community.</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets five times a year. We also have two committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. The Resources Committee, which focuses on finance, premises and staffing matters; a Teaching Learning and Pupil Well- being Committee which considers the curriculum, pupil attainment and welfare. We also have committees that can be convened if required to consider staffing matters and complaints.</p> <p>See p4 for a list of Governors.</p>
Attendance record of governors	<p>The Governing Body has good 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 p5 for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings.</p>
The work that we have done on our committees and in	<p>The Governing Body has continued to focus on school improvement with particular emphasis on those groups of pupils who need extra support and to ensure that the school budget</p>

the governing body

remains sustainable to enable this to take place with appropriate levels of staff in a well maintained building. We are fortunate to have a Governing Body with a variety of professional and personal skills which they use to support Mrs Dismore and the school. The Committees discuss the work of the school and policies in detail; the full Governing Body meetings consider their minutes, in addition to Headteacher Reports which provide lots of information, and discuss strategic developments. In addition, we have reports presented to us from other members of staff directly. All meetings give the opportunity for Governors to ask questions which are always answered fully and to receive reports from outside bodies such as the Local Authority's Education Challenge Partner which helps to confirm the school's own self-evaluation. In addition, we are in our third year of having days in school which provide an excellent way for the Governors to monitor the work of the school during a working day. Governors also visit the school to attend events, including social ones such as the PTA Barbeque and Quiz, and to accompany school trips. In both of these ways we can hear directly from staff and pupils and see in action the policies and reports we discuss in Governor meetings.

As a Governing Body we share the school's commitment to giving Safeguarding and the welfare of our pupils the highest importance. Both of our Committees have regular agenda items on Equal Opportunity and Disability Issues, use of the Pupil Premium and reports on Special Education Needs (SEN) provision and outcomes. 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. We are also concerned about 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 Teaching and Learning Committee has spent time considering how the new Primary curriculum has been implemented and how pupils' work is being assessed after the withdrawal of National Curriculum Levels. They also have an ongoing programme of reviewing the School policies on Wellbeing, Health and Safety, Behaviour and Safeguarding and have reports from the Headteacher and other staff to ensure the effectiveness of these policies. This year we have given particular consideration to aspects to e-safety and mobile technology reflecting the opportunities and challenges digital technology offers our pupils. The Resources Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and makes decisions about

	<p>how the school should use the budget. Our Health and Safety Governor carries out regular HSE walks with the Headteacher and reports back to the Committee. The Committee considers the budget in detail and the School Finance Officer Mrs Woodhead attends the meetings to answer our questions. This Committee reviews Finance, HSE and Staffing policies as well as Financial Benchmarking and audits to help to ensure the school is delivering best value. Early in the summer term, the Resources Committee approved the three year budget plan for the school: we are pleased to report that the school is in a healthy position financially with a Local Authority Green rating, successful audits and complies with School Financial Value Standards.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>The Governing Body will continue to ensure that the school delivers a stimulating creative curriculum through high quality teaching and resources, supported by a sustainable budget to enable all of our pupils to thrive. Changes to the organisation of schools will be kept under careful consideration with improved outcomes for pupils given the highest priority.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of full governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.</p>

Avenue Junior School Governing Body

Governor	Category	Term of office expiry date
Mark Ashurst	Co-Opted Governor	09/02/19
Benedict Binns	Parent Governor	18/11/2017
Giorgia Bottinelli	Parent Governor	30/06/17
Wendy Cleary (Chair)	LA Governor	30/08/2018
Nicola Davies	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Deborah Dismore	Headteacher	Ex officio
Beverley Ellis	Staff Governor	17/09/2017
Michael Grimble (Vice Chair)	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Sian Jones	Parent Governor	18/11/2017
Jason Menezes	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Amanda Norman	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Nania Poulson	Parent Governor	18/11/2017
Joanne Thompson	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Clive Turner	Co-Opted Governor	12/02/17
Toby Whalen	Co-Opted Governor	31/1/20

Avenue Junior School Governors' Attendance Record for 2015-2016

Governor	Full Governing Body	Resources Committee	Teaching & Learning
Mark Ashurst	40%	80%	n/a
Benedict Binns	80%	80%	n/a
Giorgia Bottinelli	40%	n/a	75%
Wendy Cleary (Chair)	100%	100%	100%
Nicola Davies	100%	n/a	100%
Deborah Dismore	100%	100%	100%
Beverley Ellis	100%	100%	n/a
Michael Grimble (Vice Chair)	100%	100%	n/a
Sian Jones	60%	n/a	75%
Jason Menezes	80%	80%	n/a
Nania Poulson	80%	n/a	100%
Joanne Thompson	40%	n/a	50%
Clive Turner	80%	60%	n/a
Toby Whalen	100%	n/a	50%