# *Introduction*

This document summarises Governance at Manor Park School and Nursery, as of Autumn 2021. The document is stored on the School website, alongside additional information such as the minutes of recent meetings.

# *Purpose of Governance*

In accordance with the Government’s requirements for all Governing Bodies, the core strategic functions of the Manor Park Primary School and Nursery Governing Board are:

* Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
* Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school
* Overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring value for money
* Promote the highest possible standards for Safeguarding

# *Governance Arrangements*

The Governing Body is currently made up of:

* 2 elected Parent Governors (Cathryn Walley and Lee Williams)
* 6 Co-opted Governors (Patrick Jones, Revd. Paul Deakin, Lesley Dalzell, Jennifer Hopkinson, Richard Woollam and Julie Nichols)
* 1 Head Teacher (Simon Cotterill)
* 2 Staff Governors (Sarah Jeffery and Esther Holden)

The full Governing Board meets once per term. The Chair is Lee Williams, Vice chair is Cathryn Walley and the Clerk is Sue Pomeroy from Cheshire East Local Authority.

In 2019-2020 we operated with three committees (Resources, Teaching and Learning, and Pastoral) plus the Full Governing Board, that met once per term. We also have other committees and working groups that meet as and when they are needed. They cover areas such as performance management and pay.

In 2020-2021 we are changed the governance to operate as ten meetings of the Full Governing Board that are scheduled approximately every month. This has improved our ability to effectively deliver on our statutory objectives and will monitor the change carefully over the coming months. In addition, because of the Coronavirus pandemic we have been meeting remotely using Zoom. This has worked very well, but we hope to adopt a mixture of remote and in-school meetings as soon as we are able.

# *Attendance of Governors*

We continue to have an excellent record of attendance at meetings, the dates for which are agreed at the beginning of each school year. OU rmeeting dates for 2020-2021 were as follows. Each meeting runs from 17:00 to 19:00.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Meeting #1 | Meeting #2 | Meeting #3 | Meeting #4 |
| Autumn Term | 24 September | 22 October | 19 November | 8 December |
| Spring Term | 21 January | 25 February | 25 March |  |
| Summer Term | 29 April | 27 May | 1 July |  |

# *Link Governors*

In addition to being members of the Full Governing Body, each Governor takes on specific areas of responsibility as “Link Governors”, where they focus on certain aspects of school operation. The current Link Governors are:

* **Curriculum**: Patrick Jones and Lesley Dalzell
* **English**: Cathryn Walley
* **Foundation Stage**: Patrick Jones
* **Governor Training**: Richard Woollam
* **Health and Safety**: Julie Nichols
* **Maths**: Cathryn Walley
* **Pastoral**: Stewart Gardiner
* **PE and Sport Development**: Esther Holden
* **Pupil Premium**: Revd. Paul Deakin
* **Safeguarding**: Lee Williams
* **Special Educational Needs**: Jennifer Hopkinson

# *The Focus of our Governance*

We want the school to continue to be a happy place where the children receive a high-quality and individually-challenging education that promotes their excitement, enjoyment and enthusiasm for learning. At the core of the school is a set of values that the children understand and exhibit throughout their school life:

* Respect
* Pride
* Responsibility
* Resilience
* Reflection

Building on the above, the school has a three-year plan where governance activities challenge and monitor improvements that the school is making, in five key areas:

* Outcomes for pupils
* Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
* Personal development, behavior and welfare
* Effectiveness of leadership and management
* Early Years

# *How you can contact the Governing Body*

We welcome all questions, suggestions and feedback from parents. You can contact the Chair of Governors (Geoff Mason) via the school office, or by email at chair@manorpark.cheshire.sch.uk

You can see more information about Governors and Governance on the school website, together with the minutes of all recent meetings.

**Impact of the LGB-**

We have supported the school leadership team in successfully navigating the extremely challenging demands that the Covid 19 pandemic have put on the school. We have offered challenge and support In relation to remote learning, safeguarding and mental health/pastoral support for children/staff and families.

All governors have a secure understanding of the Impact the Covid pandemic has had on school- staff, children and families. Continuing to meet and support the school at the height of the pandemic and during the different school lockdowns.

We are proud that no meetings were missed or cancelled and attendance remained high at all times. Governors were still able to conduct monitoring visits, (either In person or remote as the rules at that time allowed.)

Governors have supported the SLT In developing strategic plans for the 2021-2023 period and have offered challenge on these plans to ensure that they are both robust and accurately reflect the needs of the school. We follow a bespoke monitoring schedule that Is linked directly to the SSDP and the areas of Interest/link for each specific governor.

Governors have monitored and supported In the following areas In the previous 12 months- **Safeguarding, Staffing, Health and Safety, OPAL (Outdoor play and learning), Phonics/Early Reading, Remote learning, Maths, Middle leadership, Wider Curriculum, Staff wellbeing.**

Lee Williams (Chair of LGB) - October 2021