

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of

Moorside Junior School - July 2017

“The governors rigorously challenge and investigate the actions of leaders, while also offering good support. They have played an important role in driving forward school improvements and eradicating weaknesses. Leaders are held to account for the quality of teaching, learning and assessment, as well as for the quality of outcomes for pupils seen in statutory tests and school data. They have an accurate and incisive view of the school’s strengths and weaknesses from first-hand experience, participating in monitoring activities alongside senior leaders. Governors are passionate to see all pupils fulfil their true potential “

OFSTED Inspection Report May 2017

The Role the Governing Body

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Moorside Junior School Governing body are:

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

As governors we ensure that we know and understand the school priorities, demonstrate a commitment to the success of the school, and hold the senior leadership team to account. Governors understand their responsibilities and fulfil monitoring requirements.

Governors consider the school’s priorities that form part of the school development plan and targets are set for the forthcoming year. Some targets may respond to current data that details pupil progress others may respond to for example the latest OFSTED report.

This year the monitoring activities of Governors have focused on the achievement unlocked initiative that looks at strategies and programs for children in receipt of Pupil Premium and determines how they can best be evaluated for impact on pupil progress.

Governing body meetings are held every half term where reports are received from the head teacher. A range of issues are discussed in these meetings and can include looking at school data, training, behaviour in school ,safeguarding and addressing key issues that are facing the school.

Governors understand the evidence that is presented relates to the impact of intervention and teaching with regards to the progress and attainment of all pupils. We are in a position to ask about the strengths and weaknesses in the school and understand what measures are being undertaken to ensure all children benefit from an inspiring curriculum which provides a range of experiences to promote learning.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Moorside Junior School was reconstituted in April 2017 and is now made up of:

- 3 parent governors
- 3 co-opted governors
- 1 staff member
- 1 Local Authority member
- Head teacher

The Moorside Junior School Governing Body – Current Membership

Governor	Category	Term of Office Expiry Date
Louise Phythian-Lee (Chair)	parent governor	August 2017
Ian Chapman (Vice chair)	co-opted governor	December 2017
Stephen Dunning	parent governor	August 2017
Annette Beckwith	co-opted governor	December 2018
Tom Gaunt	parent governor	December 2020
Louise White	Head teacher	Ongoing
Claire Russell	Staff member	December 2018
LA governor	Vacancy	
Co-opted governor	Vacancy	

Resigned 2016/7

Graham Shaw (from July 2016) co-opted governor

Alison Ogier (from September 2016) parent governor

Keith Miller (from December 2016) co-opted governor

Vacancies : From September 2016 – April 2017

LA governor , 3 parent governor , 3 co-opted governors

Vacancies following reconstitution April 2017

LA governor , Co-opted governor

Attendance Record of Governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body of governors' attendance at meetings, details of attendance can be found on page 4.

Some examples of the work governors have undertaken during this school year :

*FGB- full governing body , MIS- moorside infants school . MJS- moorside junior school

- During this academic year governors decided the achievement unlocked initiative would be the focus of our monitoring. In pairs governors took responsibility to look at one of the priority areas and devised a monitoring plan for the year that ensured the action plans were implemented and evaluated. Governors have contributed to the ongoing progression of these plans. Monitoring reports have been completed and shared at FGB. A range of monitoring activities have been undertaken that include attending staff meetings, talking with pupils, learning walks , participating in lessons and reviewing data.
- A governor skills audit has been undertaken and a review of governance completed summer 2016.
- Actions identified at the end of the 2015/16 academic year are being addressed such as compiling an induction pack for new governors, succession planning and developing closer links with MIS.
- It was agreed at our last FGB in April 2017 that we will reconstitute to 9 governors to be proactive in ensuring we remain efficient and fit for purpose .We hope this will also enable a

smooth transition with MIS from September 2017.

- Links with MIS have been firmly established and will be further strengthened in the summer term as we implement our succession plan. At the end of July 2017 4 MJS governors come to the end of their term of office or will step down which will leave 6 vacancies. We have proposed and agreed a plan with MIS that their existing governors will become members of both boards to enable them to deal with governance across both schools. The summer term will be a period of transition and handover between the governing bodies. In preparation for this we have voted 2 MIS governors onto the MJS board as associate members.
- MJS and MIS are already working together on a number of governor activities. A staff questionnaire has been completed by staff across the 2 schools , health and safety monitoring of the site is carried out jointly , SEN monitoring is completed across both schools by the MIS nominated governor, results of the recent parental questionnaire has been presented jointly on the schools websites.

Both governing bodies have been committed to identifying ways in which we can ensure closer links between the 2 schools as we work towards a successful transition of governance at the start of the next academic year.

- Earlier this year Governors supported the reinstatement of the well-being mentor post. This was a new post in the last academic year and was not appointed to when the previous post holder resigned .Governors were able to refer to reports we had requested that considered the merits of this post and evaluated its impact. Based on evidence of need and effectiveness governors were able to support this post being re-established and an appointment was made in February 2016.
- Governors fully participated in the LA review conducted in February 2017 and have noted and discussed recommendations.
- Governors have carried out a review of the information held on the school website and identified the areas that need to be addressed and improved.
- Governors regularly discuss the plans to convert to an academy and recently requested an update from the MAT who are the sponsors for MIS and who are the preferred academy for MJS. We anticipate that Moorside Junior School will convert to the same academy that sponsors the Infant school to ensure we further cement our ambition to become a through primary school.
- Governors are aware of the challenges facing the school with regard to meeting the needs of our most vulnerable children. The school strives to work in partnership with specialist services and as in previous years governors are proactive in ensuring the best outcomes are achieved for these children with additional needs.
- Governors have fulfilled responsibilities to scrutinise the school's performance. Governors have become increasingly knowledgeable about the school priorities and understand the relevant available data.
- Governors have reviewed a number of school policies throughout the year many of which are available on the school website
- Governors have a responsibility to monitor Health and Safety within school. This year the Governor taking a lead in this area has met with our H&S adviser jointly with the Infant school governor who shares this responsibility .Together they have identified and rectified

any potential safety areas within both schools. Governors have a responsibility to make sure that actions and recommendations from our advisor are implemented to ensure a safe school environment is maintained.

- Governors have responsibility for making sure the school gets the best outcome for the money allocated and address issues such as building maintenance, staffing and H&S. Governor activity this year has supported the school in achieving best value and reviewed the budget allocation.
- The school receives sports premium monies to develop sport within school. Governors receive regular reports about how this money is allocated in school and consider the impact of the sporting experiences being offered to the children..
- The performance management of the head teacher has been undertaken by the Chair and Vice Chair of Moorside Junior's and the Chair of Moorside Infant school with an annual review taking place in the autumn term. Governors also receive information about the support and training being made available to staff to ensure we continue our commitment to provide appropriate CPD for all our staff.

Strategic Planning for the Future

In July 2017 four governors will be resigning from Moorside Junior School as terms of office come to an end and other commitments mean some governors cannot continue. It has been agreed that from July 2017 the governors at Moorside infant School will be co opted onto the board at the Juniors and will provide governance at both schools . This will ensure the performance at both schools can be overseen by one governing body.

How to contact your governing body from September 2017

Email Mary Kelly Chair of Governors
cofg@moorside-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk

The Moorside School Governors' Attendance Record for 2014-2015 (%)

Governor	full governors meeting (6 meetings)
Louise Phythian-Lee	6/6
Ian Chapman	6/6
Stephen Dunning	6/6
Annette Beckwith	5/6
Claire Russell	5/6
Tom Gaunt	2/4