



St. Michael's Woolmer Green C of E School: Governors Annual Review 2016-17



This Annual Report should be read in conjunction with the "Governors Review of the Year for Parents/Carers 2016/17," a statutory document that we are required to produce each year and which can be found on the school website.

Mr Mallon

As a school we were shocked and deeply saddened by the death of Mr Mallon and we continue to hold his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Our Committees

The Governing Body is split into two sub-committees; their work is summarised below:

Learning and Pupil Progress Committee (LPP)

We continue to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding in our school. Our Safeguarding governor conducted our annual safeguarding inspection and audit immediately prior to our Ofsted inspection and his report was presented to LPP in November.

LPP receives regular reports on pupil progress and attainment. We attended meetings with our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner and reviewed the outcomes - the Standards visit (December) which focused on the school's self-evaluation and outcomes for pupils and the Joint Annual Review visit (March) which examined the school's progress with its priorities.

Throughout the year we closely monitored one of the key School Improvement targets for 2016-17 which was to ensure that pupils make substantial and sustained progress in maths and for the school to exceed national and county levels in SATs. In July we analysed the 2017 SATs results and were delighted to see a substantial improvement in outcomes in maths with 80% of Y6 pupils achieving the required standard (National 2017 75%/St Michael's 2016 68%). Reading continues to be an area of strength with 92% of Y6 pupils meeting the required standard (2017 National 71%/St Michael's 2016 73%).

Together with the school, we focused on further strengthening links with parents. Prior to the establishment of the Parent Council, the committee invited parents from Reception (January) and Key Stage One (March) to come and speak to the committee and share their experiences.

LPP reviewed the new Behaviour policy which was subsequently ratified by the Full Governing Body (FGB) in March.

Dr Stephen Long, Chair LPP

Finance and Resources Committee (FRC)

FRC is responsible for overseeing how the school budget is spent. There is very considerable pressure on school budgets at the moment and the committee has this at the forefront of its mind when considering future school expenditure. FRC monitors the school financial position on a monthly basis; month end reports are signed off by the Chair of Governors.

A grant has been received from the Diocese to enable us to install a new boiler in Y6, replace the radiators in the corridor of the main building and to resurface the Reception outdoor play area. These works will take place during the summer holidays. Such grants are specific in nature and relate to the restoration and preservation of our buildings. The new window in Oak class, which was fitted in the Easter holidays, has also been provided for under this grant.

Along with regular health and safety checks performed by Governors, the Health and Safety Governor undertook his annual audit in September and reported back his findings. The report only had minor comments and showed the school to be maintained to a high standard.

In February, an IT consultancy carried out a survey of all IT equipment in school and presented us with a detailed report. This forms the basis for our thinking in terms of IT priorities going forward. Replacement PC's are on order for several classrooms, the office and for the



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Headteacher. We recognise the need to have good IT facilities in school and have protected the IT budget for 2017-18 notwithstanding the pressure on school budgets.

In May the committee reviewed and approved our FYE accounts (to FYE 31.3.17), the draft budget for 2017-18 and projections for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 budgets. The draft budget for 2017-18 was subsequently approved by the FGB on 22 May.

Dr Matt Barfield, Chair FRC

Admissions

The Admissions committee convened in February to rank by category the applications received for our Reception 2017 intake. Our Admissions policy for 2017/18 was approved by the FGB.

Appointments

One of the key duties of the Governing Body is to select the Headteacher. We formed an Appointments Committee in April 2017 to begin the process of recruiting a new Headteacher. The committee were advised by representatives from Herts for Learning (the Local Authority) and the Diocese of St Albans. We were delighted to be able to appoint Mrs Martin to this role in May 2017.

Inspections

Governors were interviewed as part of the SIAMS and Ofsted inspections that took place in October and November 2016 respectively. Governors will review the School Improvement Plan for 2017-18, which will include our post Ofsted and post SIAMS priorities.

New Governors

During the year we welcomed Kate Stuart and Lesley Griffith to our Governing Body. Both sit on LPP. We also have a new clerk to Governors, Abigail Seeley. The Reverend Dominic Holroyd-Thomas has recently been appointed as the new

Deacon of St Michael's Church and will formally join the Governing Body in September.

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to all families who completed the parent questionnaire in March. We had 98 families respond, which is a great uptake! Below is a summary of the results from the section relating to Governance:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
We are aware of the role Governors play at school	22	50	19	1	2
We have opportunities to meet Governors at school events	28	51	12	1	1
We know how to contact Governors	19	41	26	3	5
Our Governing Body is proactive	22	41	30	0	2

**Numbers reported reflect the number of answers received to each question.*

Governors make regular visits to the school (as detailed in 'Governors Review of the Year for Parents/Carers 2016/17') and attend parent consultations and parent council meetings. Governors can be contacted either in person or via the school office in the first instance. **So that parents receive regular updates about the work of the Governing Body, we will be writing to you on a termly basis effective September 2017.**

Towards September

Our first FGB of the new academic year is scheduled for September 18th at which time we will elect the Chair of Governors, the Vice Chair and the Chair of both committees. We will also decide upon the composition of both committees. We will consider the School Improvement Plan



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and begin to plan for Governors Day 2017/18.
After this meeting, we will report back to you let you know the composition of the Governing Body for 2017/18.

Thank You

As we come to the end of an often sad year, many 'thank you's' are due. Firstly, to Miss Prentice who has worked tirelessly throughout the year, leading us through our Ofsted inspection and running the school at various times and for all of the summer term. Her wisdom, guidance and vast experience have been invaluable and we cannot thank her enough.

Secondly, to **all** the staff – teachers, TAs, MSAs, Mrs Allen, Mrs Blyth, Mrs Hewitt, Tim our caretaker, our kitchen staff and other support staff – for their hard work, their professionalism and commitment to our children.

Thank you to the Class Reps and The Friends who together work hard to raise funds for the school.

And, finally, thank you to the many parents who give up their time to help our school – be it changing books, reading in class, participating in the swimming rota, providing transport to sports events, running an after-school club, helping on school trips – your time and assistance is acknowledged and appreciated.

We wish you all an enjoyable summer holiday.

Rachel Stringer
Vice Chair

Sue Gray
Chair