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| Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Tottenhall Infant School  September 2023 |

In accordance with the Government’s requirements for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Tottenhall Infant School 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**

The Governing Body of Tottenhall was reconstituted in September 2014 and consists of

* Parent Governors (4)
* LA Governor (1)
* Staff Governors(1)
* Co-opted Governors(9)
* Headteacher

The governing body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year

**Governing Body September 2023- July 2024**

Governing Body meeting dates for the academic year are;

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| **Autumn 1** | **Spring 1** | **Summer 1** |
| 26 September | 23 January | 14 May |
| **Autumn 2** | **Spring 2** | **Summer 2** |
| 14 November | 26 March | 2 July |

Agendas will be agreed in partnership with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors with the support of the Clerk.

**Attendance records of governors**

The clerk keeps a record on behalf of the governing body, of governors’ attendance at meetings. Meetings need to be “quorate” to ensure decisions can be made.

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| **Governor visits**  The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the School Improvement Plan and to oversee the current actions linked to the school’s work. These visits are considered a valuable opportunity for governors to work closely with staff members seeing strategies from meetings put into action. These visits ensure governors have an accurate picture about the performance of the school and can support and drive forward school improvement as well as evaluating current school policies and practice. |
| **Data analysis**  Data is made available to governors through regular meetings with verbal and written presentations followed by question and answer sessions to examine results and trends. The Governors scrutinise data form all year groups to heighten their awareness of focus and vulnerable groups paying particular attention to Pupil Premium pupils. |
| **Policies**  Governors review all relevant policies on a scheduled basis to ensure that all guidance is current, relevant and up to date. Specific attention is paid to ensure that all the school complies with the DFE mandatory policy list. |
| **Staff recruitment**  The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher are trained in “Safer Recruitment.”  Governors are involved in the recruitment and selection of key posts and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff are appointed. They have considered a wide range of strategies to ensure the right staff are appointed to drive forward the actions necessary to deliver high quality learning for our pupils. |
| **Financial management**  The governors work with the School to achieve “The Schools Financial Value Standard and Assurance (SFVS) on an annual basis.  The impact of the Governor’s role in the school ensures that the budget is well managed and improvements are effective and continuous.  External audits confirm that finances are well managed. |
| **Safeguarding**  Governors take responsibility for ensuring the safeguarding arrangements meet current statutory requirements including the Single Central Register.  They evaluate and review the annual safeguarding audit. |
| **Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body 2022-23**  GOOD OFSTED OUTCOME – November 2021  Ensuring value for money in a declining budget and increased costs.  Support the school in managing a decline in admission numbers for September 2023 reception cohort. |
| **Assessment of Impact 2022-23**  Governors have had significant engagement in response to the OFSTED report and priorities. Governors regularly visit the school and have oversight of the schools development and delivery of education. Governors are pleased to note the achievement of the Ofsted Good Grade.  A number of new governors have joined as either parent, community, local authority or co-opted governors. Parent vacancies will be advertise to the new EYFS parents during the Autumn Term. Appointments have been made to support a broad knowledge base across the governing body. |

**Strategic Planning for the future**

Governors work with the Senior Leaders to monitor the School Improvement Plan. This Plan details aims for the forthcoming year and is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities.

**The main priorities from Ofsted 2021 were:**

* A few subjects are not planned and sequenced as precisely as others. This means that pupils do not always deepen their knowledge and build on what they know and can do. In these subjects, leaders should continue their work to fully embed recent improvements to the curriculum, including assessment procedures.
* Many subject leaders have been appointed recently. They are developing their knowledge of their subject, but this is at an early stage. Senior leaders should ensure that subject leaders receive the training and guidance they need to develop their subject expertise and leadership skills.

**The main priorities for 2023 - 24 are:**

* Communication & Language (EYFS) – support early language development through effective interactions
* Leadership – to increase the effectiveness of leadership within the school at all levels
* Phonics & reading – To improve reading across the school to ensure more pupils are reading at expected level
* Curriculum – To diminish the gap between girl’s & boy’s writing
* Mental Health & wellbeing – create school vision for mental health & wellbeing
* Improve overall attendance to 95%.
* To improve the level of parental involvement and engagement to have positive impact on their children’s learning

**How to contact your governing body**

Information about the school’s governing body is available on the school website. The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the school Office Manager as follows:

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