

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT for
The Governing Body of
Saxton Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School
July 2017

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the Saxton Church of England (voluntary Controlled) Primary School Governing Board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of its staff
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The governing body of Saxton School was reconstituted in September 2016 and is now made up of:

2 Foundation governors (1 ex officio, 1 appointed by the Diocese of York)

1 Head teacher governor (ex officio)

1 staff governor (elected)

3 parent governors (elected)

1 Local Authority governor (proposed by North Yorkshire County Council and appointed by the Governing Body)

3 co-opted governors (appointed by the Governing Body)

For an effective governing body and the success of the school, a range of skills are required by governors and co-opted governors are chosen for the skills which they can bring to the school. Parent and staff governors are subject to a voting system.

There have been six full governing body meetings this year. There are also two committees which consider different aspects of the school in detail. These are:

1. Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee, which deals with the budget, staff structures and the safety of the building and grounds. This committee meets at least once per term.
2. The Rapid Improvement Group, which focuses on the Rapid Improvement Plan. Three governors form the Rapid Improvement Group. They are each responsible for one of the three areas of the plan and monitor it regularly. They meet at least once a month

All the committees report directly to the full Governing Body. Meetings have to be quorate to ensure that decisions can be made.

All governors have specific responsibilities and are expected to visit the school regularly to get to know the school on a normal working day, meet staff and children, be available to parents on a regular basis and attend training.

Attendance record of governors

Attendance at all full governing body meetings has been good. No meeting has had to be cancelled because it was not quorate. The clerk keeps a record of attendance. Details can be obtained on application to the clerk.

The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body

This academic year started with a full complement of governors, a new chair of governors and new vice-chair. An Ofsted inspection was overdue and, when it did come in March 2017, we were very disappointed with the inspection judgement of 'inadequate'. Since then the main focus of the governing body has been to ensure that the premises are secure and safe and that rapid improvements are made.

A Rapid Improvement Plan immediately replaced the School Improvement Plan to focus on the Ofsted recommendations. A Local Authority Plan was also put into place to provide support to the school.

The three main recommendations from Ofsted form the three main priorities of the plan. They are

1. Ensure the safety of pupils
2. Strengthen leadership and management of teaching and the curriculum
3. Urgently improve the quality of teaching and outcomes for pupils

The Rapid Improvement Group has been monitoring the implementation and the impact of the plan.

Other work carried out by the governing body

- School budget monitoring
- Ensure premises are safe and secure
- Pupil premium/sports fund monitoring
- Health and Safety Policies updated and monitored
- Risk Assessments reviewed and updated
- Staffing structure
- Data analysed to ensure that pupils make good progress from their starting points
- Attendance monitored and tracked
- Monitor Performance Management
- Review and monitoring of school policies
- Monitoring of SIAMS action plan

Strategic Planning for the future

- Ensure that the school continues to make rapid improvement
- Ensure premises are safe and secure
- Review the school's aims and values
- Ensure End of Key Stage results are above the national average
- All children to make above average progress
- Maintain high level of attendance
- Maintain the distinctive Church of England ethos
- Review the Curriculum
- Improve teaching and learning
- Continue active participation in STAR Alliance

Membership

Name	Governor type	Specific Responsibilities
Dawn Younge	Foundation	Chair of governors; Rapid Improvement Group; HT Performance Management Committee; Finance, Staffing and Premises
Joanne Spavin	Parent	Vice-chair; Classroom Link; HT Performance Management Committee; Behaviour
Carole Middleton	Acting Head teacher	
Ben Garland-Collins	Staff	
Anne Boulton	Co-opted	Classroom Link; Rapid Improvement Group; Finance, Staffing and Premises, Pupil Premium; SEND
Ann Jesty	Co-opted	Classroom link; Safeguarding; Rapid Improvement Group
Georgina Kelly	Co-opted	Finance, Staffing and Premises
Chris Wilton	Foundation	SIAMS
Bev Eastwood	Parent	Premises; Health and Safety
Vacancy	Parent	Election to take place Autumn Term
Vacancy	Local Authority	

The governing board buys in professional clerking support from the North Yorkshire County Council Clerking Service. Jayne Blake is the clerk to the Governing Body. She can be contacted by writing to:

The Clerk to the Governing Body, Saxton CE School, Dam Lane, Saxton, LS249QF

Contacting the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents.

You can contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Dawn Younge, in writing via the school office or email cofg@saxton.n-yorks.sch.uk