

The Governing Body of Hasland Junior School

Annual Statement 2020/2021

Due to the extreme difficulties all schools have faced since early in 2020, because of Covid 19, the Governors of Hasland Junior School have had to change the ways in which they work to support the headteacher and staff of the school. Meetings in school and visits to the school have not been possible, but information has been shared through phone calls, e-mails and virtual meetings online, as well as through the Parent Hub. The headteacher and school business manager have worked tirelessly to keep us up-to-date with all the many developments in school and we have been delighted with the way children have continued to work from home over the last few months.

The remote information sharing will continue throughout the next school year, for as long as is necessary in order to **keep the children and staff safe**.

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Hasland Junior School's Governing Body are:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;

Governors are responsible for setting school priorities in line with school improvement and to regularly monitor the progress of identified goals as part of our strategic role. At Hasland Junior School every child matters and Governors and staff are committed to ensuring that we provide the best opportunities for our children in a safe, caring and stimulating and happy environment.

Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;

Governors attend meetings to regularly monitor assessment data and we use this opportunity to ask challenging questions regarding attainment

and progress, including for different groups of children. We will continue to meet remotely via Office Teams for the time being. We have Link Governors and a Curriculum Committee, whose responsibility it is to liaise with the relevant staff members for different areas of the Curriculum.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Governing Body approve the budget each year and have a Resource Committee who oversee financial matters arising.

The Governing Body

We are all extremely proud of Hasland Junior School and support the school in as many ways as we can. Throughout the last few months we have been thrilled with the way the headteacher and the staff have worked to keep the children of key workers learning safely in school and children being home-schooled working at home. This has all taken a huge effort and has meant that staff have worked through normal holiday periods with enthusiasm and commitment. Mr. Winson has not had an easy start to his career as headteacher here, but we owe him a huge debt for leading the staff so successfully and for his constant encouragement.

Each year the Governing Body considers many aspects of governance and some of our work is detailed below:

1. The Governing Body supports and challenges the school by:
 - Attending meetings (currently virtually)
 - Asking challenging questions
 - Monitoring the School Improvement Plan
 - Supporting school events, regular visits to school and attending parents' evenings (once restrictions are lifted)
 - Continuing Professional Development
2. **Safeguarding** - Members of the Governing Body undergo safeguarding training and a Link Governor meets with a designated

Safeguarding Lead to discuss relevant issues. Also a Governor is present during termly Health and Safety Inspections.

3. **Assessment** - Reports are prepared for the Governing body and are presented regularly at Governors' Meetings. These show progress, term by term, for each year group, for boys and girls and for disadvantaged and SEND pupils.

4. **Staffing** - The headteacher and an appropriate number of staff and Governors are all 'safer recruitment' trained. Governors and the headteacher ensure that the highest quality of applicants are appointed to post.

5. **Governor Training** - Governor training needs are identified annually to inform individual and collective requirements for Continuous Professional Development. In addition, an annual Skills Audit of the full Governing Body is undertaken to inform the membership of committees and recruitment of new governors.

6. **Disadvantaged (Pupil Premium)** - Governors ensure that funding is allocated effectively. The school has a dedicated disadvantaged (pupil premium) teacher and teaching assistants are present in every class during key subjects (Maths and English). When Breakfast Club and After-School Clubs are available, disadvantaged children are offered a free place in both.

7. **Sports funding** - Governors have been involved in monitoring where the money is being spent, including entering sports competitions and After-School Clubs. When these can take place again, this monitoring will continue.

8. **School Budget** - This is discussed on a regular basis and the budget is allocated to provide the best possible provision for the benefit of the children. Members of the Resources Committee discuss school finance each term, including premises, school environment improvement, staffing, funding, equipment, software etc.

9. **Curriculum Committee** - At termly meetings, subjects are discussed and detail is requested from subject leaders via Link Governors.

Currently, with the restrictions that are in place, the focus will be on providing the best range of subject coverage possible and reviewing progress made towards targets identified on the School Improvement Plan.

10. **Policies** - These are regularly reviewed and amendments made where necessary.

With the constant changes that are having to be made due to Covid 19, it is difficult to predict with any certainty, how the role of Governor may change over the coming year. Whatever the changes, the Governors will do their utmost to support the school, the staff and the children to the best of their abilities.