

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Cockfield Primary School 2022-2023

Cockfield Primary School Mission Statement

At Cockfield Primary School our whole school vision statement is

Care, believe, achieve together!

This reflects the ethos of the school and how every member of the school community, children, parents, staff and governors has a role to play in ensuring the school's continuing success. We believe in developing children's positive attitudes. Our ethos of care is central to the Cockfield family and runs through everything that we do.

This is supported by our Mission Statement:

- o Everyone will feel welcomed, respected and valued as part of our family
- We will provide a safe and caring learning environment where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- We will promote a culture of respect, responsibility and understanding of others.
- We work together to ensure our school is a happy place where excellent behaviour is expected and all children enjoy their educational journey

The Governing Body of Cockfield Primary School has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

- 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, and the performance management of staff; and
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.



Governance
arrangements

The governing body of the school was re-constituted in 2015 and consists of the following members:

Governance

The Head Teacher

1 staff governor

2 elected parent governors (2 vacancies)

1 local authority governors

5 co-opted governors

The full governing body meets once a term with a number of sub committees considering different aspects of school life in greater detail. Considerable time is spent interrogating the Head teacher's report. National Government and Local Authority guidance is received.

Currently we have the following committees:

- Appeals
- Curriculum & Standards
- Finance & Premises
- First/Pay Review
- Headteachers Performance
- Staffing

A code of conduct for governors has been reviewed and agreed

Governors all have special responsibilities and visit school to improve their knowledge and understanding of their areas. It also allows them to see the impact of the strategic decisions made by governors. Governors complete reports which are presented at full governing body meetings.

Governors have carried out a skills audit.

Curriculum & Standards

At each meeting governors assess pupil progress against agreed targets by analysing and interrogating data presented by staff. The implications of our analysis are discussed.

Finance

The budget statement is agreed by this committee in consultation with the Head teacher. The Oracle statement is considered and any discrepancies discussed.

Attendance record of governors

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never had to cancel a meeting because it was not 'quorate' (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).



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

The Governing Body has had a particularly busy year and worked with school leaders to ensure continuous school improvement following the COVID-19 Pandemic, focusing on maintaining the safety of all pupils and staff. In particular, there has been a strong focus on raising the mental health and physical wellbeing of our children during the lockdown periods and also on their return to school. There has also been a strong focus on maintaining the mental well-being of all staff.

Governors attended training led by the School Leadership Adviser on their monitoring role in school. They have also attended training linked to their own monitoring responsibilities in school.

The Curriculum and Standards committee has spent time discussing key data giving the results of pupil achievement and progress, so that we can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its targets for all our pupils.

The development of our whole school curriculum intent and implementation has been a core focus for the school since the appointment of the new headteacher and governors have played a key role in monitoring its development to ensure that it is ambitious and coherently planned.

We continue to focus on "vulnerable groups" of children and how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes. Governors have completed monitoring visits across a range of areas including Safeguarding, English, SEND, Sports and Pupil Premium and reported back to the full governing body.

The Finance Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and is making necessary decisions about how the school should use its budget while maintaining staffing levels.

One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies. In 2022 policies continue to be renewed to reflect the needs of members of the school community with protected characteristics. Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents –you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.



Future plans for the Governing Body	 In order to strengthen Governance further we see the following as priorities for 2022/23: • To follow a strategic plan which maps all meetings and monitoring activity for the year ahead. Work with subject leaders to gain a greater insight in to subjects taught within school -ongoing Work with HT to gain an insight into curriculum coverage and pupil progress across school To continue to closely monitor what we are doing to close the gaps To further develop their monitoring role within school, related to the areas for which they are responsible
Contact Details	The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office. Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.
Cockfield Governing Body:	Mr. M Goy (Chair Person) – Co-opted Governor Mrs G. Fox – (Deputy Chair) Co-opted Mrs K. Costello (Head Teacher) Mrs E. Woods – Co-opted Governor Mr. C. Hopper – Co-opted Governor Rev. L. Evans – Co-opted Governor Cllr J Cosslett – LA Governor Mrs K. Vart - Parent Governor Ms K. Rowe - Parent Governor Mrs C. Racher – Staff Governor