

## **Annual Statement of the Governing Body 2016-17**

The Governing Body meets each half term to consider a wide range of issues, supported by the Resources and Finance Committee and the Curriculum and Community Committee.

We have three core strategic functions which are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Each year the Governing Body considers:

- Standards of attainment and progress of all year groups and groups of children across the school
- Attendance and punctuality
- Staffing
- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Regular review of the School Development Plan and the School's Self Evaluation

During the 2016-17 school year, the Governors have in particular focused on:

- Proposed national changes to Nursery provision for 2017 and establishing 30 hours provision for 2017-18
- Equality objectives
- New staff appointments
- Monitoring the development of the revised National Curriculum and its resource implications
- Monitoring new and changing national arrangements for assessment for all pupils
- The use of the government grant for the development of PE and its impact on pupils
- Auditing safeguarding and child protection procedures in school

- Considering the impact of national and local cuts to education funding and how parents might be involved in contributing to raising concerns with both local and national governments
- The use of the Pupil Premium allowance and its impact on pupils
- Reviewing DBS requirements for volunteers in school
- Reviewing our performance as a Governing Body and identifying where we need to improve
- Producing a rolling evaluation of the work of the Governing Body and identifying future actions and developments
- Analysing attainment data to help us understand areas where the school is doing well and identifying areas where improvements may be made
- The work of subject co-ordinators and outcomes in science, English,(spelling) PE, pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant and more able pupils
- Standards of attainment of boys and girls in writing
- Proposed development of provision for pupils with ASD
- Consider whether Grand Avenue might in the future become an academy of part or a multi-academy trust
- Setting an annual budget within current financial restraints which does not deter from the quality of education offered to children at Grand Avenue

Our overall aim is to support and challenge the school in order to achieve the highest quality of education for all its pupils. The above represents a sample of what has been achieved in the 2016-17 year.

#### Training for Governors

During 2016/17 governors have undertaken training in the following areas:

- Succession planning
- Partnership meetings with local authority representatives and other schools
- Financial efficiencies
- Interpreting school assessment data
- Multi academy trusts and government policy on academies
- Getting to grips with governance
- Risk assessment
- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Use of PPG grant
- Child protection

Governor visits to school have focused on:

- Premises management
- Use of facilities
- Safeguarding (including auditing all school procedures)
- Celebrations and concerts
- Use of the pupil premium grant
- Special educational needs
- School Council
- Assemblies
- Discussion with children about their learning
- Early Years assessment and outcomes
- Visiting allocated year groups to meet the children
- Meeting with members of middle leadership team to discuss the impact of their role
- Exit interviews
- More Able children
- Assessment procedures and practice (including administration of KS2 SATs)