

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
Thornhill Primary School 2019/20**

School Vision/Mission Statement

At Thornhill Primary School care is at the heart of what we do. We believe that the caring ethos of our school will ensure all children achieve the very best they can and are fully prepared for the next stage of their educational journey and life ahead. We work together to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment where every child is valued.

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

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Head teacher 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

Our Governing Body was reconstituted in Summer 2017, to start September 2019, to consist of 12 members.

The Governing Body is made up of ;

5 Co-opted Governors	1 Authority Governor	4 Parent Governors	1 Staff Governor	1 Head teacher
Mrs. F J Brown Mr. D. Thompson *3 vacancies	Mr G. Huntington	Miss. Jary Mrs Halton-Cason. Mrs Byrne Miss Foster	Mrs. J M Jones Mrs A Overfield (advisory)	Mrs. S.A. Green

The Committee Structure is as follows;

Committee	Members
Appeals	4
Children's	4
Finance and Premises	5
First / Pay Review	3
Head teacher's Performance	2
Personnel and Discipline	5

Our full Governing Body meets once each term and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail who meet as required.

Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body

The Governing Body has had another busy year so far, focusing on continuous school improvement, implementation and monitoring of the curriculum, monitoring E-safety,

	<p>attendance and evaluating the assessment procedures using age standardised scores.</p> <p>Other key issues that have also been addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School improvement: Governors have noted practices within the teaching of reading comprehension; particularly how experienced staff have modelled and supported more inexperienced staff with a range of key resources, extensive capital investment in the creation of new outdoor sport facilities, significant capital investment in updating the classroom smart boards. • Assessment practices within school have also been noted with Governors focusing on the main assessment groups and the impact of interventions. While a future aim is to monitor the long term impact of the Nursery provision on assessment outcomes. • Governors have continued 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. This area continues to be a key part of staff Performance Appraisal. • One of the roles of governors is to review and agree school policies and this year we have considered a number of key policies. In September 2018 the revised Attendance Management policy was adopted. • Once again Governors have supported discussion about and analysis of school attendance data, an area which continues to require improvement and they have continued to support measures to counter poor attendance including a decision to focus Governor training on attendance. • Governors have been involved in the successful recruitment of two NQTs and have discussed how they will be supported.
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>In 2018 – 19 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nursery has an increasing number of pupils on role. • Attendance figures improved slightly up to May 2019 but the impact of the final Summer half term attendance is still an area of concern. • Assessment procedures have been reviewed and embedded. All staff continue to be involved in extensive data analysis to ensure the needs of each individual are being met.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Review – staff have been kept up to date with developments in the new Ofsted Framework being introduced in September 2019 and adjustments to our curriculum are currently being made in accordance with this.
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<p>In order to strengthen Governance further we see the following as priorities for 2019 / 20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To further develop the role of the link Governors who will monitor an identified area of the curriculum or aspect of the school and attend a series of school visits across the year. • To further develop the Governing Body's evaluation skills regarding data analysis and how to interpret the new Analyse School Performance data. • To continue to monitor the gap in attainment of 'vulnerable groups', with particular focus on the higher ability disadvantaged pupils. • To have an increased role in the school development plan to monitor staff development both NQTs and curriculum coordinators; in particular the development of the subject coordinator's leadership role and their ability to influence curriculum design and lead innovations in their subject. • To consider programmes to enhance the mental wellbeing of the school community.
<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.</p> <p>Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.</p>