

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Thornhill Primary School 2022/23

School Vision/Mission Statement

At Thornhill Primary School we provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment where every child is valued, feels confident and enjoys learning. We have high expectations for all our pupils to ensure they are fully prepared for the next stage of their education journey and their life ahead.

Our pupils deserve the very best education. We provide all of our pupils with quality teaching and a broad, ambitious and enriched curriculum, which ensures our pupils gain the necessary knowledge and skills. We have high standards for behaviour, attitudes and attendance.

We strongly believe in giving our children the best possible start to their education, so they can achieve their potential and be lifelong learners.

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 Autumn 2022 and consists of 13 members of which 9 positions are currently filled.

The Governing Body is made up of ;

5 Co-opted Governors	1 Authority Governor	4 Parent Governors	1 Staff Governor	1 Head teacher	1 Associate Member
Mrs D Halton-Cason Mr D Thompson Miss J Foster 2x vacancies (1 to be filled in Spring 2023)	Cllr D Mather	Mrs J Nisbet Mr G Bennett 2x vacancies (Both to be filled in Spring 2023)	Mrs. J M Jones	Miss S Overfield	Mr. D. Jackson

The Committee Structure is as follows;

Committee	Members
Appeals	3
Curriculum and standards	7
Finance and Premises	7

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<p>Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body</p>	<p>Our full Governing Body meets once each term and we also have termly Finance and Curriculum committee meetings. Other meetings are scheduled to consider different aspects of the school in detail.</p> <p>The Governing Body continues to be actively involved in school focusing on continuous school improvement, implementation and monitoring of the curriculum with regular monitoring visits with curriculum coordinators in areas specifically highlighted in the SIP.</p> <p>Other key issues that have also been addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School improvement: Governors have noted practices linked to the development of reading within school. With the continued focus on ensuring high quality teaching of reading; all staff completing Systematic Synthetic Phonics training and the development of reading for pleasure - with enhanced home school links via reading bags and crates and magazine subscriptions. Also, the development of a new Reception Class reading planner to strengthen parent support. The creation of a new library within school has provided an invaluable resource to further a love of reading and a thirst for knowledge. • Governors have noted developments in the delivery of the RSE curriculum discussing progression in knowledge and skills planning, resources, lesson delivery and pupil learning. • A range of policies have been reviewed and are accessible on Governor Hub. Governor Hub has been adopted by all members to ensure effective and efficient communication. • Assessment practices within school have also been noted with Governors focusing on the main assessment groups and the impact of interventions. • 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. • 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 						

	<p>attendance including a decision to focus Governor training on attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors have also completed Ofsted and Safeguarding training with the school improvement partner.
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>In 2021 – 22 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance procedures have been reviewed and a rigorous policy and procedure is now in place which is closely administered by the HT and SBM. Improvements in pupil premium children attendance have been noted but attendance remain a focus. • Assessment procedures are securely embedded. All staff continue to be involved in extensive data analysis to ensure the needs of each individual are being met. • Curriculum Review – Governors have been kept up to date with developments in the Ofsted Framework and have outlined specifically the intent, implementation, impact and links to British Values for their subject areas. • Governors were involved in monitoring and reviewing of key priorities aligned to the SIP. • Safeguarding is a key area of governance at all levels. • Governors are an integral part of the school management.
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<p>In order to strengthen Governance further we see the following as priorities for 2022/23:</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 linked to the SIP and attend a series of timetabled school visits across the year. • To further develop the Governing Body’s evaluation skills regarding data analysis and how to interpret 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 ECTs 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 further develop strategic leadership of the governing body by widening experiences of

	<p>members such as the experience of chairing meetings, being involved in the management of change.</p>
Contact Details	<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>