



Governors' Annual Impact Statement For Parents/Carers

September 2024

The three core strategic functions of Mill View Primary School's Local Governing Body (LGB) are:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The Local Governing Body at Mill View Primary School consists of:

- Headteacher
- Staff Governors x 1
- Parent Governors x 3
- Co-Opted Governors x 3

The LGB would like to thank Cesar Mendoza and James Brown who resigned/term of office expired, for their commitment and support to Mill View Primary School.

The LGB operates a 'flat' governance structure which means that there are no committees and all local governors are involved in all discussions. The LGB has met nine times this year. The LGB is a committee of Cheshire Academies Trust and its role and responsibilities are set out in the Cheshire Academies Trust Scheme of Delegation. The role of the LGB is to:

Monitor the performance of the academy under the six headings of:

- Vision and strategy
- Educational performance
- Financial performance
- Safeguarding
- Compliance
- Governance

Attendance record of governors

The attendance for meetings for 2023/24 was. The attendance record of the LGB is published on the school website.

The work that the LGB has done in 2023/24

Through monthly reporting by school curriculum leaders using online presentations at the LGB meetings, reviewed, monitored, challenged, and supported the implementation of the agreed school curriculum model and the 2023/24 SDP targets. Members of the LGB also attended training provided by the Trust on the new strategic tool SQM following its introduction to the school.

Governors monitor the financial performance of the school through (at least) termly link governor meetings between the Principal, Academy Business Manager and the link finance governor who reports back to the LGB. The Academy Business Manager is also in attendance to provide a termly update of the school's financial position. Through their support, challenge governors are assured that the budget is used to support school development priorities.

The Link Governor role was continued this year. Following each termly meeting between the responsible member of the SLT and their Link Governor partner, an executive report was prepared by the LGB member which summarised the questions asked and key points of the discussion. This paper was presented to the LGB prior to the monthly meeting and helped facilitate a full discussion during the meeting, chaired by the Link Governor. This has further enhanced the understanding and ability of new and existing LGB members to question and challenge the vast range of data, evidence and policy papers which are a key dimension of being an effective LGB.

When the Trust introduced the use of FFT data reporting to LGB's, significant discussion and consultation took place before an appropriate and fit-for-purpose termly report format for progress and achievement was created. The outcome ensured LGB members were able to effectively analyse and interrogate this key school performance indicator for the school. The LGB continued the policy of regular triangulation governor visits to school, enabling first-hand evidencing of the school vision and strategic plans being implemented through the daily processes of a normal school day.

Members of the LGB were proud to meet with the lead HMI during the OFSTED inspection of the school in May 2024. In the context of the Outstanding judgement, the contribution of the Mill View LGB was noted as being 'expert', a recognition that underlined the ambition, commitment, and contribution that the current LGB has shown in embracing their strategic responsibilities for the school.

Future plans for governors

Following the resignation of an experienced co-opted member of the board, and with an additional vacancy for a co-opted governor already existing, a recruitment strategy was discussed in the summer term and will be closely monitored in the new school year to ensure these vacancies are filled with appropriate candidates as soon as is possible. Consequently, there will be an audit of the current LGB members skills and expertise and a potential for the reallocation of Link roles and associated training programmes.

Following a school year with an interim Senior Leadership Team, it is anticipated that a return to a substantive SLT will occur during the 2024/25 school year. The LGB will take an active part in the process to ensure the school maintains its commitment to high quality leadership. It also recognises that following the recent extremely successful OFSTED report, the school's leaders and LGB will need to ensure the school's commitment to its vision and values continue to be challenging, ambitious and focused upon the highest standards for all pupils.

How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents and carers. Please contact the Governance Professional at emma.keefe@cheshireacademiestrust.co.uk.