

**Great Chart Primary School  
Annual Governance Statement  
Sept 2021**

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Great Chart Primary School**

September 2021

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Great Chart Primary School's Governing Body are:

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;**
3. **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

**Governance arrangements**

The Governing Body of Great Chart Primary School was re-constituted in January 2015 and is made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 7 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The full Governing Body meets 6 times a year, and we also have a two sub committees: a Pay Committee and a Headteacher's Performance Management group. We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline, staffing matters and complaints.

**Attendance record of governors**

Governors have good attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See the school website for governors attendance record.

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

Alongside the rest of the school the Governing Body has been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic. We have held our meetings virtually since March 2020, with the last 2 meetings being face to face.

Governors have been focused on their core responsibilities and have monitored the way in which the school has managed the pandemic in terms of:

- Health & Safety
- Staff and pupil well being
- Adaptations made to the curriculum including remote learning
- Finance in terms of catch up funding
- Monitoring the Recovery Plan

One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing statutory school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies, including Health & Safety, Antibullying, Behaviour Management and Safeguarding.

Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – you can either find them on the Governors' page of our website or you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings - [www.great-chart.kent.sch.uk](http://www.great-chart.kent.sch.uk)

	<p>Members of the Governing Body visit the school to ensure everyone is aware of the school's strengths and areas of development. The number of visits in the last year have been significantly reduced due to the closure of the school due to the COVID 19 pandemic.</p> <p>We have also worked closely with Mrs Pang, school leaders and staff who have all done an incredible job during the past very difficult year.</p>
<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	<p>The Governing Body is looking forward to the year ahead ensuring the school can help all pupils catch up from the effects of the COVID pandemic and still provide an outstanding education. We continue seeking ways to actively engage with the school in a variety of ways and to provide effective strategic direction. We will continue to ensure the premises are safe and secure. Please also see the school priorities on the website. These have been updated in September 2021 for the forthcoming year.</p>
<b>How you can contact the governing body</b>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr Fitch, via the Clerk. You can see the full list of governors; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.</p>
<b>Priorities</b>	<p>The governors agreed with the school Senior Leaders the strategic priorities for the school for the next year:</p> <p>The initial priority for the school will be to effect a good recovery for all pupils ensuring they are once again able to access the full school curriculum.</p> <p>Further details of the priorities for 2021/22 are available on the school website.</p>