

**Great Chart Primary School  
Annual Governance Statement  
Sept 2024**

<b>Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Great Chart Primary School</b>	
September 2024	
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:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined</li> <li>2. that the headteacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school</li> <li>3. the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources</li> </ol>	
<b>Governance arrangements</b>	<p>The Governing Body of Great Chart Primary School was reconstituted 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.</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets 6 times a year, and we also have two groups: a Pay Panel and a Headteacher's Performance Management group. We also have panels that meet if required to consider pupil discipline, staffing matters and complaints.</p>
<b>Attendance record of governors</b>	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.
<b>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</b>	<p>Governors have been focused on their core responsibilities but also during 2023-24 they have worked on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operational v strategic. Understanding the Governors' role</li> <li>2. Ensure monitoring visits are effective and carried out consistently.</li> <li>3. Support the school in implementing the 5 year strategic plan.</li> </ol> <p>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 &amp; Safety, Anti Bullying, Behaviour Management and Safeguarding.</p> <p>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- <a href="http://www.great-chart.kent.sch.uk">www.great-chart.kent.sch.uk</a></p> <p>Members of the Governing Body visit the school to ensure everyone is aware of the school's strengths and areas of development. They also monitor the School Development Plan.</p> <p>The Governing Body has formulated a 5 year strategic plan for the school 2024-29. These will be our main priorities:</p>

	<p>Priority 1- An Inclusive School: A school adequately resourced (human, financial and physical) to meet the needs of all pupils including those with SEN.</p> <p>Priority 2- A Sustainable School: A school positioned to support the delivery of an outstanding education</p> <p>Priority 3- A Future Focussed School: A school that continually strives for innovation in the provision of an outstanding curriculum</p> <p>The Governing Body will monitor how the 5 year plan is reflected in the annual School Development Plan.</p>
<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	<p>The Governing Body is looking forward to the year ahead ensuring the school continues to 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 below and on the website agreed by the Governing Body. These have been updated in September 2024 for the forthcoming year. For 2024-25 Governance priorities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the school to implement the 5 year plan. Establish how it is monitored and reviewed</li> <li>2. Building the team to ensure governors carry out their core responsibilities and integrate fully into the life of the school</li> </ol>
<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, Mrs Windle, via the governance professional. 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>School Priorities</b>	<p>The governors agreed the School Development Plan priorities for the next year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To ensure consistency of the teaching of reading across the school moving to a blended approach of guided reading to whole class daily reading sessions.</li> <li>● To continue to drive to raise the standards of writing throughout the school to reduce the data gap between reading and writing for all pupils. To increase the number of pupils achieving greater depth in writing.</li> <li>● To ensure a clear progression of learning within maths teaching across the school to ensure pupils use a range of strategies and methods to investigate, solve and reason.</li> <li>● Effectively review and evaluate the impact of the foundation curriculum subjects on pupil achievement- are children knowing and remembering more? Establish strategies to assess pupils and to implement manageable recording systems for all subjects.</li> <li>● Implement and embed The Empowerment Approach to behaviour and inclusion across the school and the wider school community to ensure pupils feel happy, safe and secure, and to establish a positive learning environment.</li> <li>● Through the EYFS curriculum, to develop an understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity enabling pupils to learn to see the</li> </ul>

	<p>world from different viewpoints and instilling respect for others' beliefs and practices.</p> <p>Further details of the priorities for 2024/25 are available on the school website.</p>
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