

# **Governor Annual Statement**

## **Brinkworth Earl Danby's CE VC Primary School**

November 2019

### **Introduction**

As last year was a year of stability, the 2018-19 year has been a year of development and looking to the future to see what we can improve. This applied to ourselves, the school and our profile in the community.

Our focus for our own improvement over the last year has been on improving our understanding of Ofsted inspections (which came in quite handy), more detailed understanding of the school's finances and fiscal affairs as well as raising awareness of what we do as governors amongst the school community. We have also dedicated much of our time and efforts to improving communications and continuing to look at developments that would improve the quality of the children's time at the school.

The most significant event of the year was the Ofsted inspection in December. It was encouraging to read the line, "The school's experienced and effective governors know what the school has achieved and have well-founded plans to improve it further", indicating that we are heading in the right direction.

Rob Platt  
Chair of Governors

## **Summary of Achievements**

### **Governor Improvement Plan (GIP)**

The following areas were chosen for the governors to improve upon during the year:

1. To improve the general understanding of Ofsted inspections amongst governors.
2. To improve governors' general awareness of the school's financial affairs.
3. To raise awareness of governor work amongst the school community.

Several governors attended training about Ofsted inspections in October that was then disseminated amongst the other governors that were unable to attend firsthand. This training assisted us to know what areas the inspectors would be interested in when they visited and stood us in good stead to gain a good result from the Ofsted inspection.

The Finance & Staffing committee has worked tirelessly to ensure that the school maintains a responsible budget. Their work will be detailed later in this statement but as this can affect some big decisions that the Governing Body may have to make, it was felt that it was vital that everyone really gained an in-depth understanding of the school's fiscal position. This was achieved by Ella Morgan briefing the school's current situation, forecasts, options with pros and cons all balanced and ready for discussion.

We have tried over the last couple of years to raise the profile of the governors around the school with various tactics. These have included simple items like wearing a governor's lanyard when attending school events to the annual barbeque. This year, we have tried to raise awareness, not so much of who we are but more focused on what it is we do. We have added profiles of each of the governors on the webpage and added an item into the newsletter to outline our role and how we go about it. We have also been attending some Parish meetings to ensure that the school is fully integrated into the community.

### **Ofsted**

With the inspector arriving on one of the busiest days of the year with both KS1 and KS2 Christmas performances in St Michael & All Angels Church in Brinkworth taking place. The staff did a fantastic job of managing the inspection whilst never letting it affect the children's performances that they had worked so hard to bring together. The outcome was Good but better than that was the fact that everything that the inspector mentioned were areas that were already identified through our own thorough Self Evaluation process, demonstrating that we are very aware of where we are and where we need to be.

### **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)**

Mike Graham and Nicky Sinclair, our 2 Foundation governors have been extremely active within the school, ensuring that the Christian ethos is being upheld on a daily basis within the school. Anne-Marie Tuck has also been very active helping with Open the Book at KS1, enlightening the children with bible stories.

## **Finance**

The financial stability of the school was again a high priority and will continue to be in the coming years. Through constant evaluation of income and expenditure, Mrs Hilliard, Mrs Davis and the school team spent less than forecast giving us a small amount of breathing space going into the next financial year. We have withstood more financial challenges with statutory wages and pension increases without a corresponding income increase from the Government. This leaves less money to work with necessitating Mrs Hilliard to teach two days a week allowing us to retain six classes in 19/20. We thank Mrs Hilliard and the school team for their flexibility and stoicism.

A significant amount of time has been spent forward forecasting our financial position and the implications for our school structure. We worked hard to keep our parents and staffing team informed of the national education funding issues and the future implications for our school. In order to gain the best possible insight Mrs Hilliard continues to attend Area Heads meetings and we also met with Wiltshire Council's Schools Strategic Financial Support Manager. He was very satisfied with our current management and future strategies within the context of the funding environment.

A summary of other areas of note follows. There were no significant recommendations for Finance & Staffing following the Ofsted inspection. The investment into Cornerstones Curriculum is paying dividends in the variety of teaching methods and the ability to analyse ongoing progress and attainment data. The committee have attended training to keep improving our skill base. Through external benchmarking we know our in-house school catering offers good value for money whilst achieving all the nutritional requirements and our children continue to enjoy the meals. Thank you to the catering team for their enthusiasm and careful management. We have fulfilled all statutory requirements with regard to financial submissions and evaluations.

We envisage 19/20 to be another year of intense finance management especially in light of the political instability and no light at the end of the tunnel regarding the underfunding of schools especially in Wiltshire.

## **Health and Safety**

The Health and Safety committee met three times during the year. A number of policies with reviewed and implemented due to updated statutory requirements. Again, two H&S internal walkarounds where completed at each site, and no major issues were found. Once again due to the hard work for the staff putting in extra effort in keeping the school neat and tidy.

## **Education and Development**

### **Community**

Members of the governing body have attended several Parish meetings throughout the year in order to ensure that we are fully integrated into the community and the school's viewpoint is expressed with reference to any ongoing projects.

## Appendix A

### Key Stage 2 SAT Report 2018

This is the third year that Y6 children have been tested against the new, more challenging National Curriculum that was introduced in 2014. This cohort of children have been taught this new curriculum for four years. Not all National data is currently available.

Results have been reported by the government as scaled scores. The scaled scores range from 80 to 120 with 100 as the expected standard.

#### Average Scaled Scores for Tested Subjects

Although the Expected Standard is 100, the average scaled score is different. The Averages for this year are set out below.

Subject	National Average Scaled Score	School Average Scaled Score
Reading	105	107
Grammar, punctuation and spelling	106	105
Maths	104	105

#### Pupils Reaching the Expected Standard and a High Standard

23 children in the cohort

Each child represents 4.35 %

Subject	National % Expected (unvalidated)	School % Expected	National % High (unvalidated)	School % High
Reading	75	83	28	35
Grammar, punctuation and spelling	77	78	34	30
Maths	76	83	24	30
Writing (Teacher Assessment)	78	87	20	17
Achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths	64	74	10	4

#### Progress Measures from KS1 to KS2

Subject	National Progress Range	School Progress
Reading	-5	+0.8
Writing	-7	-0.7
Maths	-5	-0.6

## Key Stage 1 SAT Report 2018

This is the third year that the Y2 children have been tested against the new, more challenging National Curriculum which was introduced in 2014. This cohort of children has had two years of being taught this new curriculum. Results from the tests were converted to scaled scores. The scaled scores at KS1 range from 85 to 115 with 100 as the expected standard.

The children took new, more rigorous tests in Reading and Maths and also in Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation, although these were optional again this year. The class teacher then used the scores from these tests, as well as her knowledge of the children over time, to give a 'Teacher Assessment'. The National standards are not currently known.

### **Pupils Reaching the Expected Standard based on Teacher Assessment**

22 children in the cohort

Each child represents 4.54 %

<b>Subject</b>	<b>National % Expected</b>	<b>School % Expected</b>	<b>National % Greater Depth</b>	<b>School % Greater Depth</b>
Reading	75	77	26	27
Maths	76	86	22	14
Writing	70	68	16	9
Science	83	100		

### **Year 1 and 2 Phonics Screening Report 2018**

Year 1 - 18 children in the cohort

Each child represents 5.6 %

Year 2 - 4 children took the phonics screening

Each child represents 25 %

<b>Subject</b>	<b>National % Expected</b>	<b>School % Expected</b>
Year 1	82	72 (2 children disappplied)
Year 2	92	100

### **Early Years Report 2018**

23 children in the cohort

Each child represents 4.35 %

<b>Subject</b>	<b>National % Expected</b>	<b>School % Expected</b>
% of Reception pupils assessed at a Good Level of Development (GLD)	71	87