



Crabtree Farm Primary School

Governing Body Impact Statement School year 2022-23

This report provides a brief summary of the work of the school's Governing Body in 2022-23 and its impact on the school and its pupils.

The Governing Body

The Governing Body is made up of parent governors, a local authority governor, staff governors, and co-opted governors. It meets six times a year. A separate finance committee meets before the full governing body meetings and a pay committee meets annually. A professional clerk from the local authority's Governor Services attends and minutes all full governing body and finance committee meetings.

This year the Governing Body has been strengthened by the addition of two new governors who have between them considerable expertise. The Governing Body has continued to work closely with the senior leadership to ensure that the work of the school has continued effectively.

Governors' meetings

During the pandemic, the governors conducted all their meetings by video. This year they chose to conduct some of their meetings face-to-face and some by video.

All but one of the meetings have taken place as scheduled. One meeting was cancelled out of respect for Miss Rebecca Prince, a Year 1 teacher, who very sadly died in May. Her funeral was held on 8 June 2023.

At the five meetings of the full governing body, governors have received regular reports from the headteacher, the school business manager and the finance committee. Governors have discussed pupils' achievement and progress, safeguarding, progress on the School Development Plan and policy updates. They have asked the headteacher for regular reports on pupil and staff wellbeing. Governors play a key role in the drive for school improvement by holding the school to account, at the same time acting as a critical friend and providing support to the school.

In addition, the headteacher, deputy head, chair and vice-chairs of governors have held regular video meetings with the head and deputy headteachers which have proved very helpful.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has met four times. It has worked closely with the school's senior leadership to prepare the three-year plan, the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) and the school's budget and has presented them to the full governing body.

Pay committee

The pay committee has met once to review the performance management of all staff carried out by the senior leadership team and its pay recommendations to ensure that the system is rigorous, fair and non-discriminatory, and that targets are closely related to school improvement priorities and that pay recommendations are dependent on meeting targets and outcomes for children.

Headteacher appraisal

Three governors appointed by the governing body carried out the headteacher performance management review, holding the headteacher to account for the progress made in achieving her personal targets and the attainment of the school's key priorities. Maintained schools are required to appoint an external adviser for guidance, support and consultation on establishing headteacher appraisal objectives. Our School Improvement Adviser normally takes on this role.

Monitoring the School Development Plan

Link governors have been appointed for the following subjects to monitor the School Development Plan (SDP).

- Arts
- Early Years Foundation Stage
- English
- Equalities
- Health and safety
- Health and safety
- Humanities
- Maths
- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish)
- Reading
- Personal, Social and Health and Sex and Relationship Education
- Pupil Premium
- Safeguarding – this is required by the DfE.
- Science
- SEND
- Sports Premium
- Wellbeing

In order to help governors monitor progress on the school development plan effectively, the governors have formed a data group to work with the school to ensure that all governors fully understand the school's performance data and its implications.

SEND

In summer 2023 90 pupils were identified as having SEND support . This is approximately 22% of pupils on roll (well above the national average). The link governor for SEND has worked closely with the SENCo to ensure that the provision for these pupils is appropriate.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium grant is designed to support schools in helping disadvantaged pupils to improve their progress and the test/exam results they achieve. 66% of pupils were eligible for the Pupil Premium in 2022-23 which is considerably higher than the national average. Governors had already approved the school's proposals for a revision to the Pupil Premium programme for 2022-23 in the previous year. This will be reviewed again for the coming year. The Pupil Premium link governor has worked closely with the school on developing the strategy.

Covid catch up fund

The Recovery Premium Implementation and Impact Report is on the school website and is updated to reflect how the Covid catch-up funding is used. The use and outcome of the funding has been shared regularly with governors.

Governors' support for school initiatives

Governors have continued to support the school in developing its middle leaders in response to the last Ofsted report's criticisms. It has also supported the school in reorganising its use of teaching assistants to ensure that the needs of all pupils are met. They supported the school strongly in its application to achieve the Artsmark Gold award in order to ensure breadth in the curriculum.

School progress

After the disruption caused by the pandemic and the resulting lockdown, the school has made good progress. This is reflected in the results achieved by pupils this summer. Following the KS1 and 2 SATS earlier in the summer term, it is now possible to see the improvements everyone has been working for.

Key points:

- The data shows that pupils are now heading towards the national figures.
- The KS1 SATs results were very positive.
- The Key Stage 2 results show the most progress.
- Following these improved results, the Nottingham Schools Trust (NST), has recognised the progress that the school has made.

Governors believe that their contribution to the commendable progress the school has made include:

- The challenge they regularly present to the school
- Their scrutiny of the school's data
- Their support for the school in, for example, the Artsmark
- Regular monitoring visits
- Regular scrutiny and approval of school policies.

Training

Governors have regularly attended training sessions organised by Local Authority Governor Services and new governors have attended induction training. Some of the full governing body meetings have begun with a short training and development session.

Next steps

Priorities for governors for the coming year include:

- Continuing to support and challenge the school in its work
- Supporting the school in its work on improving attendance.
- Preparation for a possible Ofsted monitoring visit.