

# The Vine Inter-Church Primary School



## **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020-21**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at The Vine Inter Church Primary School throughout the course of the 2020-21 academic year.

### **Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance**

The Instrument of Government for The Vine Inter Church Primary School allows for 14 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 10, with 4 vacancies that the Governing Body continues to work hard to recruit to. As The Vine is a church school, we have 6 Foundation Governors as well as the Minister from Camboune Church and a representative from the Methodist Church.

Through the course of the 20-21 Academic Year, the Governing Body has lost 5 governors and gained 1 governor in their place, which has unfortunately further reduced the overall capacity and membership of our board.

Over the course of the 2020-21 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Daniel Rainbow.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Miss L Hilling, as Clerk to Governors and Ann Griffiths who is the assistant clerk.

Over the course of the year, Governors at The Vine Inter Church Primary have an attendance of over 70% at all meetings. Further information about governor attendance and declaration of interests can be found on the school website.

### **The Structure of Governance**

As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, The Vine Inter Church Primary School has three sub-committees, to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage.

The school names these committees as:

- Strategic committee – which is the chairs of the two sub-committees together with the chair and deputy chair of Governors.
- Business and Resources Committee – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, Health and Safety, Premises.
- Children and Standards Committee – which mainly deals with the curriculum, assessment and data, SEND and Pupil Premium expenditure and impact.

These committees and the Governing Body overall have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility, and we have a named Safeguarding Governor. In addition, the Chair of Governors has regular one to one meeting with the headteacher.

In addition to the above, the school also constitutes a Headteacher Performance Management Panel annually. Recently, we have formed an Ethos committee to plan for our impending SIAMS inspection.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

### **Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body (3-5 key points)**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Supporting the school's Risk Assessment with regard to Covid-19 and enabling the safe return to school for children and adults alike
- Receiving updates from the Headteacher to inform their work in response to the pandemic, in order to ensure the continued education and safety of all children.
- Overseeing updates with regard to the progress by children since returning to in-school teaching and how long it will take for children to catch up and what resources are being used to help.

### **Impact of the work of the Children's and Standards Committee (3-5 key points)**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Children's and Standards Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Ensuring that safeguarding procedures are effective through dialogue with Safeguarding Lead and scrutiny of relevant policies.
- Monitoring quality of provision during remote school, and the ongoing development and review of the school's new curriculum.
- Monitoring pupil progress throughout the year, particularly how pupils are being supported to close gaps in learning caused by the Pandemic.

### **Impact of the work of the Business and Resources Committee (3-5 key points)**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Business and Resources Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Discussing how the COVID catchup money is being spent.
- Discussing the school's staffing structure and appointments and ensure that it fits with the school budget.
- Discussing the ongoing need for the school roof to be repaired and how it will be paid for.
- Discussing what the catering provision will be at the Vine as the current catering contract expires at the end of the year.

### **Governor Training (3 – 5 highlights)**

Governors work is collectivel, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- Preparing for a SIAMS and OFSED inspection as we are due both when inspection resume.
- Online MAST seminars by the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust have been excellent and relevant to COVID, reopening, and catchup.
- LA Briefings – in order to remain up to date with latest Local Authority information regarding the approaches towards safe school reopening.

### **Governor Monitoring (3-5 highlights)**

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the curriculum).

Throughout the course of this year, Governors have undertaken particular monitoring in relation to;

- The Curriculum and each year group has had two Governor monitoring meetings.
- Premises, Health and Safety
- Safeguarding and single central register.

### **Forward Planning (Broad summary paragraph or three particular highlights)**

Following the above impact of 20-21, the Governing Body looks forward to returning to a more “normal” structure to its work in the forthcoming academic year. This will include;

- Ensuring that the school is suitably prepared for OFSTED and SIAMS inspection
- Providing continued oversight regarding the impact of expenditure upon children’s outcomes
- Governor recruitment of 2 Foundation Governors, 1 Parent Governor and 1 Local Authority Governor.
- Continued monitoring of each year group to provide a closer link between Governors and Teachers, including in school visits when appropriate.

### **Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at:  
<https://www.thevine.cambs.sch.uk/meet-the-governors/>. This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to [chair@thevine.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@thevine.cambs.sch.uk) regarding the work of the Governing Body.