

Wallace Fields Junior School Governing Body Impact Statement

The Governing Body of Wallace Fields Junior School met formally for at least seven full Governing Body meetings in 2021-22. The Governing Body is an intrinsic part of the leadership of the school. This impact statement is one way in which the Governing Body articulates its role in school leadership and the impact Governors have had on school improvement.

The WFJS Governing Body includes a group of dedicated volunteers, who invest a huge amount of good will, hard work and time for the sole purpose of improving the education of every child in our school. The Head teacher governor and elected staff governor are also members of the Governing Body. We are a committed team of Governors whose varied backgrounds, skills and experiences are vital to deliver effective governance. A skills audit has been completed and governors assigned different roles within the governing body.

The Government expects us as your Governing Body to be a dynamic group of highly skilled individuals who focus on supporting the Headteacher and all the staff to shape the strategic direction of school. As Governors, we are accountable for the performance of our school and have three core functions.

The Core Functions

- *Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction*
- *Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils*
- *Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure money is well spent*

Key Achievements and Impact of Full Governing Body 2021-22 have included:

- Monitoring the education and wellbeing of children as the school returned to a full timetable of lessons, events, sports and clubs following Covid.
- Challenge and support for school leaders with regard to increased intervention and use of catch-up funding to close the gap for disadvantaged pupils.
- Continuing to seek assurance for the provision of support for SEND and EAL pupils.
- Ensuring that the School Development Plan (SDP) links directly to the financial budget.
- Supporting the leaders and staff leading up to and through an Ofsted inspection.
- Continuing to monitor and seek assurance for implementation of the SDP including learning, wellbeing, diversity and SEND through a planned sequence of Governor visits to the school.
- Increased understanding of the deliverance and success of all subject areas through subject leader presentations and questioning leaders directly to provide clarity and support staff confidence and development.
- Contributing to the development of the School Development Plan (SDP) through discussion at Governing Body meetings, oversight of achievement and attendance on INSET days.
- Termly monitoring of all safeguarding procedures by a designated Safeguarding Governor who has visited and gained assurance that those systems are in place. Governors have all undergone online training to ensure knowledge in this key area is continually updated.
- Attended a variety of online training webinars, to improve knowledge and understanding supporting governor oversight, challenge to the leadership team and delivery of effective governance.

- Participation in the Ofsted inspection including a question session with the lead inspector and receiving the final commentary from the inspection team. We welcomed the extremely positive comments made during this session.
- Welcomed and celebrated the high attainment in the 2022 KS2 National Tests (SATS) despite the impact of Covid both nationally and at Wallace Fields Juniors. The results continue to be significantly above the national and county results and with a substantial number of children attaining above the expected levels (greater depth) in all three areas (of writing, reading and maths).
- Responded to governor mobility by successfully recruiting to fill ensure a full cohort including the appointment of an experienced Chair of Governors .