

# Linwood School Governing Board Impact Statement 2020-2021

The role of Linwood School Governing Board has three core functions:

**Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction** – The Governing Board help to decide the school's strategy for improvement. It is not the governors' role to get involved in day-to-day management of the school but to focus on key issues that will help raise standards and achievement.

**Holding the Executive Headteacher (EHT) to account** for the educational performance of the school for the children and young people, and the performance management of staff and performance management of the EHT. Governors use their knowledge and experience to support and constructively challenge the EHT and Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the children and young people have access to effective teaching and learning so that positive outcomes are achieved for all.

**Overseeing the financial performance of the school** and making sure the money is well spent. Governors work with the EHT and the School Business Manager to ensure the school makes the best use of its resources.

The Governing Board have remained responsible for providing support and oversight during these challenging times. Given the extraordinary situation, Governors have focussed on critical areas where the School needed immediate support. In particular, Governors have been kept informed on the School's plans and have had oversight and input into key priorities, including:

- Overview of safeguarding procedures, taking into account remote working and the particular impact on children, young people and their families.
- Mental health and wellbeing of staff, children and young people.
- Health & safety provisions in response to the pandemic, including approval of the school's robust risk assessment and operational opening guidance.
- Overview of the in-school and remote learning being offered.
- Leading an effective recruitment process for a new EHT and supporting the interviews for two new members of the Senior Leadership Team, due to retirement and also recruitment to the DHT role at Linwood campus.
- Embedding the Recovery Curriculum.
- Monitor and challenge of the School's Development and Improvement Plan.
- Monitoring and challenge at the Curriculum Pathway Progress and Attainment reviews.
- Review of the Link Governor guidance and roles for moving towards being linked to the Curriculum Pathways (Early Years Foundation Stage, Alma, Vita, Personalised National Curriculum, Post 16, CHI the employability programme and Careers) from the previously subject specific link areas, commencing in Sept 2021.
- Monitor the use and impact of the Pupil Premium, Primary Sports Premium, Catch up Premium in particular the 'Read Write Inc' structured phonics programme, the Maths interventions and the year 6 summer support.
- Review, monitoring and approval of the school budget for 2020/2021

The Governors have remained up to date through twice termly remote full Governing Board meetings and termly committee meetings (Personal and Wellbeing, Finance and Asset Management and Learning and Achievement committees). The Governing Board continues to self-evaluate and assess the skills and experience of its governors to ensure we are equipped with the right people and structures to support the school now and in the future. Governors have been committed to developing themselves through continuous professional development, undertaking internal and external training throughout this year.

This year more than any other, we've been impressed by the resilience and dedication of our staff in every area of school life, supporting the school through these incredibly challenging times and continuing to provide fantastic levels of support to our students, their families and the wider community by responding positively to new ways of working.