

Annual Governance Statement
For the Local Governing Board
The Yare Education Trust t/a North Walsham Junior School and
The Yare Education Trust t/a North Walsham Infant School & Nursery
2017/2018

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all Governing Bodies the three core strategic functions of the Board of Governors are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements:

The Governing Body consists of one elected parent governor, one staff governor and five co-opted governors.

Attendance record of Governors:

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of Governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).

The work that the Board of Governors and the committees have done:

The Board of Governors have met on five separate occasions. The Governors all sit on one of two committees – Quality of Leadership or Pupils and Learning.

The Governors have been proactive in the matter of recruiting a new headteacher. They have been fully involved in the interview and selection process to ensure that the person appointed can continue to pursue the schools' vision.

The Governors have overseen the academisation of the schools.

The Governors discussed, questioned and accepted the School Improvement Plan which continued to be regularly reviewed and monitored.

The Governors have considered and approved expenditure on the school buildings.

The Governors have scrutinised and closely monitored the school budget to ensure actual income and expenditure is in line with the forecast. They have also compared the schools' finances to that of schools of similar size to ensure income and expenditure is appropriate.

The Governors have also been especially interested in the progress and attainment of the pupils. They have closely monitored the progress being made by pupils throughout the year and considered the gender gaps as well as the gap between Pupil Premium children and non-Pupil Premium Children. The Governors have, again, been pleased with the Yr6 SATs results and the Yr1 Phonics Test results and have commended the teaching staff and the children on their hard work and perseverance to achieve the best possible results.

The Governors have also evaluated how effectively the schools have met the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and the needs of Looked After Children to ensure those needs are being met and these children have the best possible learning opportunities.

Governor Training:

To ensure they remain up-to-date with current affairs and legislation the Governors undertook the following training:

- Head Teacher Appraisal and Capability
- Schools Financial Value Standard
- The Revenue Training
- Safeguarding
- Governor Roles and Responsibilities
- Vision, Ethos and Strategic Direction
- Holding School Leaders to Account
- Monitoring in Practice

Future plans for the Governors:

The Board of Governors will support Mrs Read as she takes on the role of Executive Headteacher ensuring that she guides the school in a direction that will see the best outcomes for all its pupils. They will continue to push the school forward and make improvements for the benefit of the education of its pupils.

How to contact the Board of Governors:

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – you can contact any of the Governors via the school office.