

## Governing Body

### Annual Governance Statement June 2016

In accordance with the Governments' requirements for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Churchside Federation Governing Body are:

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

### **Governance arrangements**

The Governing Body of the Churchside Federation incorporating Mundford Church of England Primary Academy & Gooderstone Church of England Primary Academy was re-constituted in September 2015 under the Sponsorship of the Norwich Diocesan Board (DNEAT). The membership of the governing body is made up of the Executive Head teacher, 2 staff governors, 3 Parent Governors and 7 Trust Governors. The Trust Governors are appointed by DNEAT and are people, who in the opinion of DNEAT, have the skills and commitment to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on the governing body there are representatives from the local community incorporating a wide range of skills in their respective fields, including but not limited to the armed forces, the Diocese, the NHS, construction, banking & financial services. The full Governing Body meets twice each term and there are committees to consider different aspects of the school. The Resources and Curriculum & Standards Committees meet regularly and others, such as pupil discipline, performance management and staffing matters, meet as required. The Resources Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and makes decisions about how the school should spend its budget. The Curriculum and Standards Committee has spent time considering a variety of items including attainment, progress and targets by year group including reference to vulnerable groups and monitoring and reviewing pupil & sport premium funding. The details of the committees and each individual Governors responsibilities are recorded on the website

### **Attendance record of governors**

Our Governors have good attendance at meetings, and throughout the year all meetings have been quorate- thus allowing legal decisions to be made.

### **The work that has been done in the governing body and committees**

The Governing Body has had a very busy year. The appointment of the permanent Executive Headteacher from September 2015 was a key factor in addressing the school improvement plan across the Federation and in both of its constituent parts. There has also been a review of staffing and this has resulted in the appointment of 2 Heads of School, who operate fully across both parts of the Federation. During this academic year we have had a number of staff changes in the Federation and finding the right appointees to fill these posts has been challenging. The Governors have worked closely with the Executive Headteacher and DNEAT to secure permanent staff from September 2016 who are fully committed to our Federation and its values, as we feel that this is the most important part in our continued efforts toward raising attainment and improving behaviour. The visits from the Academy Group Executive Principal have provided evidence of the areas where progress is being made and has identified where further attention is required. The governors have received regular reports on the budget, the premises and the changes to the curriculum. There has also been careful monitoring of the additional money from the Pupil Premium Grant and the impact that

this has had on the outcomes for pupils. The Academies also receives Sports Premium Funding and this money is used to purchase sports equipment, train staff to deliver sporting activities and enables the Academies to run a number of after Academy clubs, the effectiveness of this is also monitored by the Governing Body. Both Academies are now working with Edison Learning and have introduced many new teaching and learning strategies which we are now seeing the impact of across the Federation.

Our Local Governing Body carries out annual internal & external site inspection at both premises. Health and Safety checks are carried out regularly. Governors are concerned about the safeguarding of all pupils and the nominated governor monitors any safeguarding matters and reports back to the governing body. The budget plan for the next academic year was approved in May 2016. The plan allows for some reorganisation of classes to ensure the best provision for the pupils and appropriate use of funds. The Governors have received and adopted a number of policies that have been developed by DNEAT. These are available on the website or at the school. The minutes of the Governors meetings are public documents and can also be found on the website.

### **Future plans for the governors**

Developing further relationships within DNEAT – with the Trust itself and with other Academies within the Multi - Academy Trust. Achieving further developments in the Federations curriculum and a greater recognition of the need to communicate those changes effectively to parents. Giving an increased focus on under-performing groups, for example gender differences (girls in maths). Working with the Senior Leadership Team and Teaching Staff in achieving a good OFSTED result for the school. Setting up an effective monitoring plan to ensure that the school remains on track with their Academy Improvement Plan and the targets set for this coming year to meet the Government's new legislation for pupils' progress and attainment.

### **How you can contact the Governing Body**

We welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the school office and will meet with any parent when in the school. An appointment is necessary as visits are timed to suit the school timetable.

A list of trustees for the Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust can be found at [www.dneat.org/our-trustees](http://www.dneat.org/our-trustees).