

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Edwards Hall  
Primary School  
September 2017**

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Edwards Hall Primary School Governing Body are:

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

**Governance arrangements**

The Governing Body of Edwards Hall Primary School is made up of 1 staff governor, the head teacher, 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 5 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

In September 2016, we had 4 co-opted governors - one of the Co-opted governors was a parent, one a staff member and two from the local community. However, one co-opted governor resigned on 4/10/2016 and a second left in June 2017, so we currently have three vacancies.

See p5 for a list of Governors 2016/17

In September 2016 we decided to change our meeting structure and dispense with our Curriculum, Resources and Finance committees, incorporating our responsibilities into the full governing body meetings in order to address all the necessary issues as required within our Forward Planning document. We agreed to hold two full governing body meetings each term. This enables every governor to have a better overall understanding of each aspect of the school’s governance

We retained our Pay Committee and Head Teacher Performance Review Committee. We also have a committee structure in case we are required to consider

	pupil discipline and staffing matters.
<b>Attendance record of governors</b>	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 attendance record for all active governors at all meetings over the 2016/17 meeting cycle was 90%. A full attendance record for individual governors can be viewed on the School's website
<b>The work we do as a governing body</b>	<p>The Governing Body has monitored the progress of the school against the June 2014 Ofsted Report by reviewing and questioning the regular updates from the Head teacher and by individual visits to the school in line with individual governor responsibilities (see below)</p> <p>We receive regular updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding</li> <li>New Ofsted requirements</li> <li>New curriculum/assessment overview – according to recent Government changes.</li> <li>Guidance on interpretation of school data.</li> <li>SEN reforms.</li> </ul> <p>We also received training on effective reporting and each governor was allocated a specific area of focus, in line with the School Development Plan and statutory requirements.</p> <p>NB Although the governing body as a whole is responsible for overseeing the activities of the school it is impossible for all governors, as volunteers, to know everything in detail. Therefore each governor is given a specific area of focus, whereby they liaise with the appropriate members of staff and then report back their findings to the full governing body. The focus includes such areas as Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Equality, Special Needs, Professional Development, Finance and various aspects of the curriculum and year groups.</p> <p>Health &amp; Safety is taken extremely seriously by the School, which recognises its statutory obligations to its pupils, staff and visitors. The designated Health &amp; Safety governor conducts termly visits with the School Business</p>

Manager to ensure all Health & Safety related policies are adhered to and any issues or challenges can be correctly identified, investigated and resolved. This role also includes reviewing the health and safety of the building, ensuring the building remains fit for purpose.

We have a 'Link' governor, who takes responsibility for ensuring all governors are aware of training available to them through the Local Authority and how this training can be accessed. Training is encouraged to ensure all governors remain up to date with good practice, legislative changes that may impact on school governance and as an opportunity to benefit from other schools' experiences in particular areas.

We continue to focus on the changes to the new curriculum, how the school will monitor and demonstrate learner progress, changes to the maths curriculum with a focus upon supporting pupils to have a deeper understanding of maths, and providing increased opportunity for pupils to develop reading, spelling and writing across a range of contexts. Additionally, we discuss and monitor the achievement of pupils to ensure that the school achieves the ambitious targets that are set out at the beginning of each year. This includes the impact of how pupil premium is used for vulnerable groups of children. Presentations from school staff have demonstrated effective practice regarding changes to Reception whereby pupils' interests are integral to their learning, support for e-safety (for both pupils and parents), and a range of initiatives designed to encourage pupils to read more widely. One governor observed a pupil progress meeting thus providing insight into the comprehensive process of monitoring progress. Another governor reported back on the changes to the Reception /Year 1 transition process this year.

We also oversee the maintenance and development of the school premises, HR issues including staff performance management, Health and Safety, approving the Financial Standards as well as approval and ongoing monitoring of the school budget. The Governing Body

	<p>agreed the installation of solar panels and these are now in operation, enhancing our credentials as an eco friendly school</p> <p>We review and agree school policies, and these include complaints, safeguarding, data protection and attendance as well as a critical incident plan. The full list of policies is available on the school website or from the school office</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents –you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	The governors are keen to make Edwards Hall an excellent school which provides a first class education to its children. We will continue to challenge and support the School in improving educational outcomes and introducing new and innovative teaching initiatives
<b>How you can contact the governing body</b>	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Price, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors on the Governors’ page of the school website.

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## Edwards Hall Primary School Governing Body for the Academic Year 2016/17

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Term of office expiry date</b>
Jim Johnson (Head Teacher)	Staff Governor	Ex officio
Janice Price (Chair of Governors)	LA Governor	14/06/2020
Fay Stone ( Vice Chair of Governors)	Community Governor	12/05/2020
Sarah Gould	Parent Governor	22/04/2018
Karen Finn (Link Governor)	Parent Governor	22/04/2018
Matt Jellett	Staff Governor	13/11/2020
Reverend Pike	Community Governor	08/11/2019
Daniel Carey	Community Governor	14/09/2020 (withdrew from Board 28.06.17)
Eve Gale	Community Governor	31/08/2019 (withdrew from Board 04.10.16)