



## Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of Greenmount Primary School July 2020

The governing body of Greenmount Primary School conducts its business to take account of the three roles of the governing bodies as outlined in the Governors' Handbook:

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;**
3. **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**  
The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the head teacher and senior leadership team.

The number of governors in each category is determined through the Instrument of Government and is currently:

### The composition of the governing body

Category	Number	Current	Vac's
Co-opted Representatives	5	5	0
Head Teacher	1	1	0
LA Representatives	1	1	0
Parent Representatives	2	1	1
Staff Governor Representative	1	1	0
Total	10	9	0

The governing body was re-constituted in October 2014 and comprises 9 governors in total. Every governor appointed to the governing body is appointed on the basis of the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

There is currently one vacancy on the governing board, although it has taken some time to recruit Governors with the knowledge and experience of analysing performance data and knowledge of school improvement. We now have a National Leader of Governance who is up-skilling all governors. please see Appendix 1 for the names and terms of office for the governors.

### Meetings of the governing body

The full governing body meets three times a year; all meetings are clerked by a trained professional clerk. There are also two governing body committees which meet six times a year and which have delegated authority. The committees are:

Resources – finance, personnel and premises

Teaching and learning (To include Pupil Support from September 2018)

There is also a pay committee which meets as required.

### **Attendance at meetings**

Governors have good attendance at meetings overall. Apologies for non-attendance are considered on an individual basis; governors are aware through the code of conduct that non-attendance, which includes apologies not being accepted, will result in the removal of a governor six months from the date of first non-attendance. See Appendix 2 for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings.

### **The remit of the governing board and its committees**

The governing body completed a Review of Governance in November 2017, conducted by the Local Authority. This audit allowed an effective action plan to be created. then informed our school improvement plan which has prioritised the following four areas:

#### **Key priorities:**

1. To raise attainment and progress in reading across school.
2. To improve literacy and mathematical skills in the Early Years Foundation Stage
3. Develop more innovative strategies to ensure all pupils attend school more regularly and – in some cases – more punctually
4. Review and refocus teaching and learning to enable all pupils to take responsibility for their own learning.

### **The effectiveness and impact of the governing body 2019/2020**

The governing body completed a review of governance in November 2017 facilitated by governor support service. The areas for improvement that have been identified on our governors' action plan are:

- Ensuring we have the right skills on the Governing Board.
- Ensuring we are effective and fulfil statutory responsibilities.
- To ensure that every governor is aware of their specific role on the governing body, for example for child protection, that all visits to school are recorded and that reports are given at relevant governing body meetings.

### **Impact**

The governing body recruited a new deputy headteacher in December 2018 and a new Headteacher was appointed in September 2017. She is a National Leader of Education. The new deputy headteacher has thorough data knowledge and experience which has improved the in-year monitoring of the children's progress. A National Leader of Governance was appointed to the Governing Board in January 2018 and his knowledge and skill is rapidly upskilling the other members to ensure sustainable change.

Progress and attainment have shown a rapid improvement throughout this academic year due to a number of urgent actions in school. Teaching and learning has been transformed and there has been a particular emphasis on reading. Areas of improvement have been identified and included in the school development plan. Attendance has also shown an improvement as school is currently on track to achieve the target of 96% pupil attendance. Persistent absentees have also decreased.

**Financial well-being of the school.** Everyone who follows the news knows that there is a lot of pressure on school budgets. This is particularly true at Greenmount where we have a higher-than-average proportion of pupils with special educational needs and who are disadvantaged. To the great credit of the school's management team, with oversight from governors on the Resources Committee, we continue to run with a surplus. We were able to undertake a number of building works over the summer and update our ICT facilities.

During the year, governors visited the school in their monitoring capacity. In addition, governors had the opportunity to join a 'focused learning walk' with the headteacher and deputy headteacher and other senior staff. They visited classrooms and observed teaching with a particular emphasis on how we teach reading. The attendance officer also presented the strategies in school to ensure persistent absence rates decrease and overall attendance increases. Governors also attended other school functions such as performances and workshops. The administration of Year 6 SATS was also monitored and the Governor with responsibility for Child Protection and Safeguarding has met with the Child Protection team on several occasions to ensure effectiveness in this important area. Phase three of the roof replacement in main school, funded by the local authority, during summer 2018 will take place, we will then decorate areas within the school. This will include painting the entrance lobby and classrooms, replacing blinds and curtains in the offices, staffroom and classrooms. The main office area, Year 6 toilets, staffroom and staff toilets will undergo a refurbishment with a new reception area created and secure locks fitted on all external and some internal doors. Security has been increased through the creation of a secure gate at the main entrance.

Appendix 1

**Greenmount Primary School Governing Body**

Forename	Surname	Position	Category	Start	End
Caroline	Carr	Headteacher	Head Teacher	27/09/2017	01/09/2050
Granville	Clark		Co-opted Representatives	20/01/2020	19/01/2024
Robin	Goldring	Chair	Co-opted Representatives	20/01/2020	19/01/2024
Robert	Greaves	Chair	Co-opted Representatives	20/01/2020	19/01/2024
Heather	Howard		Co-opted Representatives	20/01/2020	19/01/2024
Iftikhar	Hussain		Parent Representatives	12/02/2014	11/02/2022
Christopher	Laffin		Staff Governor Representative	06/06/2018	05/06/2022
Terri	Leighton		LA Representatives	18/09/2019	17/09/2023
Laura	Whitford		Co-opted Representatives	20/01/2020	19/01/2024

## Appendix 2 Attendance Record

#VALUE!	FGB 27/09/2017	FGB 08/11/2017	Resources 31/01/2018	T&L 07/02/2018	FGB 20/02/2018	Resources 16/05/2018	T&L 06/06/2018	FGB 04/07/2018
Caroline Carr (Head)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Robert Greaves (Chair)					Y	Y	N/A	A
Robin Goldring (Vice Chair)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	A
Granville Clark	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	N/A	Y
Heather Howard					Y	N/A	Y	Y
Iftikhar Hussain	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y
Afia Khattun	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	N/A	Y
Safeena Koshar			Y+A12:127		Y	Y	N/A	Y
Christopher Laffin						N/A	Y	Y
Christine Thornton	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y
Laura Whitfield					Y	Y	A	Y
Clark Kellow	Y	A						
Phillip Oddy	Y	Y	Y					
Anne Phillips	N							
Emma Robinson	Y	A	N/A	Y	Y	N/A		