

# A love of learning for life

## Vision

Our vision is to be at the heart of the local community, developing children into happy, confident individuals who achieve their full potential.

## Values

Ambitious - we have high expectations of everyone

Respectful - we treat others the way we would like to be treated

Inclusive - we celebrate and value individuality

Community Focussed - we build links with our local community

Environmentally Friendly - we enjoy and preserve our natural world

Collaborative - we celebrate the power of working together

## Mission

Our nurturing culture inspires ambition, respect and the confidence to develop. Expectations are high, all success is celebrated and parents are active partners in their children's education.

At Kenley we all work together in supportive, positive surroundings. We are not afraid to take risks in our learning and know that experiences are an opportunity to improve.

We champion involvement in our wider communication so that our children have the tools to become considerate members of society.

We provide opportunities for the children to interact with the outdoor environment, to promote wellbeing and foster a sense of environmental responsibility.

The role of the *Governing Body* is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance. The *Governing Body* at Kenley Primary School is committed to both maintaining and exceeding these high standards.

The *Governing Body* has three core functions

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure money is well spent

To achieve their objectives Governors too must continually evaluate the role they have played within the life of the school, and publish relevant information to all interested parties.

### **School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

Governors work co-operatively with the Head teacher and Senior Leadership Team in drafting and monitoring the School Improvement Plan. The SIP is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SIP is set out with clear aims, the key tasks which will be completed in order to achieve these aims and the success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SIP is monitored and reviewed regularly.

The targets of the 2019/2020 SIP were:

- To deliver a diverse and ambitious curriculum, allowing children to develop their skills and knowledge which is effectively assessed and enables children to achieve
- Promote positive behaviour and positive attitudes to learning.
- Increase the overall attendance by reducing the number of persistent absentees and persistent latecomers.
- Pupils have access to a range of learning opportunities within the curriculum and beyond.
- All pupils are supported to keep a healthy body and mind
- Middle and senior leaders to support staff and promote good practice using a coaching model
- Governors to be further involved in the school community
- Develop systems and reporting of assessment to improve accuracy of targets

- EYFS, to raise pupil attainment in reading and writing to ensure good levels of development
- EYFS, develop maths skills especially in fluency
- EYFS, further development of outside area to encourage use of a range of skills.

### **Governor Visits**

Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SIP and of specific issues such as attendance and behaviour. The Chair of Governors has regular meetings with the Head teacher, and Governors with specific responsibilities meet with staff leaders, in particular Safeguarding, Curriculum and SEN.

Governors participate in termly monitoring visits and produce a visit report. In this way, Governors' understanding of the school is greatly strengthened.

### **Learning and Teaching Committee and Data Analysis**

The Learning and Teaching Committee is tasked with following our pupils' progress and assessment. It meets once a term.

Data on pupil performance and attendance is made available to Governors by the Head Teacher and members of the Senior Leadership Team via internal and external monitoring systems. The Governors can benchmark this data against similar schools, the Local Authority and schools nationally and monitor progress to ensure the school's standards and expectations on performance and attendance are high and are able to be closely scrutinised.

A particular focus is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and on the effective use of Pupil Premium. The Committee supports and challenges the Head Teacher where appropriate to ensure that all our children maximise their learning potential and attend school every day.

### **Policies**

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date.

### **Financial Management**

The Finance Committee contains Governors with expertise in financial management. This Committee drives the financial management of the school. The Governors work to ensure that the school budget is managed effectively.

### **Staff Recruitment**

Governors are involved in the recruitment and selection of all teaching staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff who share the school's vision and aims are appointed.

### **Governance During COVID-19 (March-July 2020)**

During the Covid-19 epidemic the Department for Education and National Governors Association gave clear guidance that governing bodies should ensure they continued to meet using video conferencing but with a changed focus:

- Conducting essential governance business only;
- Monitoring how the school is continuing to provide care for children who are vulnerable, children with EHCPs, the children of key workers and any associated risks;
- Monitoring the wellbeing and welfare of pupils, staff and stakeholders;
- Remote working for staff and how to reopen schools safely;
- Monitoring support being given to parents and carers to help them educate their children at home;

The governing board has been focussed on supporting school leaders during the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure all children, staff and the wider community are supported both in their learning, their work and also mental health. The board has actively supported the senior leadership team through an unprecedented situation by regular phone calls. The board limited the number of meetings to full governing body, finance committee and learning and development committee meetings via video conference only. These discussions had a focus on essential business. Governors have undertaken Local Authority briefings on governing through Covid-19, via teams. Governors have also input into the various drafts of Risk Assessments to ensure that children and staff were able to return to school safely, for the wider re-opening in June and the full re-opening in

September. This continues to be monitored to ensure that our school community remains as safe as possible during this time.

### **Governor Training**

During the last academic year Governors have received training in a range of subjects including:

Understanding School Finance

Effective Governance and Challenge

Headteacher Performance Management

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Prevent Training for Governors

Safeguarding

New Ofsted Framework

The impact of this is that Governors are knowledgeable, up to date in thinking to ensure the School Improvement Plan is relevant and are able to challenge and support the Headteacher.

### **Impact Statement - Review**

Governors have ensured that Pupil Premium Funding is deployed effectively, resulting in disadvantaged children making good progress. The School website has been updated to ensure that high quality and timely information is available to parents and that a great range of school clubs are offered.

### **Future & Continuous Improvement**

The Governing Body & Senior Leadership Team constantly strive to improve and develop the school. Ongoing and future areas for improving and developing include:

- Ensuring continued improvement in pupil progress and attainment across all ability groups
- Shaping the school's future
- Safeguarding of our staff and pupils
- Improved visibility of the Governing Body