

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
St Patrick's R.C Primary School, Dipton 2020 - 2021**

School Vision/Mission Statement: We follow in Christ's footsteps

At St Patrick's School our mission is to foster a caring and creative environment where each child can reach their full potential, spiritually, socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically, that each child may lead a healthy, productive and meaningful life.

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the Governing Body of St Patrick's R.C. Primary School, Dipton, has a strong focus on the following strategic functions:

1. Maintaining the on-going safety and well-being of staff and pupils;
2. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
3. Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
4. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body of St Patrick's was re-constituted in 2015 and is now made up of:

- 7 Foundation governors, appointed by the diocese
- 2 staff governors (including the headteacher)
- 2 elected parent governors
- 1 local authority governor

The full governing body meets at least once a term.

In order to cover all the work required, specific committees have been appointed as follows:

- Resources (including finance, premises and staffing)
- Standards and Curriculum
- Headteacher performance
- Admissions
- Our Strategic Leadership Group is made up of the chairs of both Resources and Standards and Curriculum Committees. This group meets termly to oversee the work of the committees and to ensure consistency, drive and balance.

We also have committees that meet, if required, to address personnel appeals and pupil discipline issues. All governors are on at least one committee and are expected to attend regularly. Committee meetings are only "quorate" if at least 3 governors are present, and full governing body requires at least 50% of governors to attend. There have been no occasions this year when a meeting has been cancelled due to lack of governor attendance.

The Resources committee, as well as its normal focus on managing the budget and fabric of the school, will focus on:

- Ensuring financial projections are robust and clear in order to make prudent decisions regarding staffing and resources;
- Appointing staff and reviewing performance and pay;
- Working towards building priorities;
- Ensuring additional pupil premium funding and sports funding is allocated appropriately to narrow attainment gaps/show positive progress for pupils.

The Standards & Curriculum committee, as well as monitoring all aspects of school performance, will look at:

- Attendance – ensuring it is given the highest priority in school;
- How governors can monitor the effectiveness of leadership and management (both staff and governors);
- Maintaining an active role in reviewing progress against the School Improvement Plan (how objectives, achievements and actions are measured);
- Maintaining the Catholic nature of education provided.

The governing body as a whole will be looking at ways to raise additional revenue in school to support future building projects.

<p>Current priorities for the Governing Body</p>	<p>Due to substantial disruption during the academic year 2019 - 2020 resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, the following priorities will continue during the academic year 2020 – 2021.</p> <p><u>Priority 1:</u> Ensure all pupils have access to a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum in order to extend their wide range of knowledge and skills. (Staff – JB Governors MS/PD)</p> <p><u>Priority 2:</u> Improve pupils’ outcomes in reading. (Staff – EP Governors KC)</p> <p><u>Priority 3:</u> Increase % of pupils showing a readiness for Y1 in terms of achieving a good level of development and excellent level of development at the end of the Reception year. (Staff – KB Governors KP/SW)</p> <p><u>Priority 4:</u> Incorporate sustained and appropriate use of outdoor learning to improve pupil outcomes in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (2-year cycle focusing on EYFS + KS1 in year 1 before moving onto KS2 in year). (Staff – LG Governors TL/KH)</p>
<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office or by email at chairofgovernors@stpatricksdipton.co.uk</p> <p>Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.</p>