

**Ravensfield Primary School Governing Board
Annual Report 2019-2020**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing boards, the 3 core strategic functions of Ravensfield Primary School Governing Board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction, including long term and succession planning;
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.

Governance arrangements

The Governing Board of Ravensfield Primary School is made up of:

- 4 Parent governors
- 5 Co-opted governors
- 1 Staff governor
- 1 Local Authority governor

Headteacher

The Governing Board considers the skills, qualities and experience required in governors when any vacancies are filled. The full Governing Board meets at least once each term and has two committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail, these are Standards and Resources. Other committees meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters. There are also governors with designated responsibilities who act on behalf of the full governing board but with particular knowledge or expertise for: Safeguarding and Child Protection, Special Educational Needs, Early Years, Behaviour, Maths, Science and Literacy.

Clerking services are provided through *One Education*.

Governors attendance and training

Governors' attendance at meetings this year has continued to be excellent. Full details of individual governor's attendance can be found on the school website in the 'Governors' section.

Each governor has signed a code of conduct which reflects their role and the behaviours that are expected. There have been new governors appointed this year who have all had their induction training, the governing board have undertaken a skills audit and identified that we have a very good selection of skills and wide experiences on the board to enable us to fulfil our duties. A training plan has been constructed to encourage individual governors to undertake training tailored to their roles and responsibilities to increase their skills.

<p>The work done by the Governing Board</p>	<p>A Chair is appointed every September with our current Chair holding this position since September 2018.</p> <p>The Board has been committed to ensuring that the funding available is used in the most resourceful and efficient way possible. The budget for the 2019-2020 was set and we have continued to monitor this throughout the year.</p> <p>The Single Central Register was checked to help ensure that all safeguarding duties are being met.</p> <p>Governors have reviewed and agreed key school policies as we continue to follow a rolling programme of reviews and where necessary we have updated our policies to reflect the new working arrangements under Covid-19.</p> <p>Our strategic improvement priorities were actioned through the school improvement plan; both in approving it and being involved in the actions undertaken. The priority is focused on securing outstanding teaching and excellent pupil progress throughout the school. During this pandemic, there have been unavoidable changes to our short-term expectations on school performance, but nothing changes in the medium to long-term. We have continued to hold the head teacher and all the staff to account by asking challenging questions to ensure all the children progress.</p>
<p>Future plans for the Governing Board</p>	<p>The Governing Board will continue to monitor all aspects of school provision.</p> <p>The Governing Board will continue to work closely with the Senior Leadership Team and the schools staff to improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment so that all groups of pupils including the most able, disadvantaged pupils and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are able to make good or better progress over time. There will inevitably be some catching-up to do, but we will see that as an opportunity not a problem,</p> <p>The Governing Board will continue to focus on helping deliver the school improvement plan, keep safeguarding at the forefront of our minds and implement our plans to ensure our financial situation remains healthy.</p>

<p>Chair's statement</p>	<p>Our academic year began with a visit from Ofsted 25/26th September where we judged one again to be a good school. We were described as a happy, calm and secure school where pupils enjoy their lessons. Our safeguarding arrangements are effective, our pupils feel safe and supported. Our Governing Board is extremely proud of our staff and children.</p> <p>In March, we had to close our school, a situation I would never have envisaged. As Governors, from the very first day of closure, in terms of our expectations for the school, there has been a change of emphasis, but not direction. Safeguarding remains a priority, our vision for the school remains unchanged, as does our expectation around financial control.</p> <p>Miss Leyland and her staff have been working extremely hard throughout and have been phenomenal during this whole crisis enabling learning to continue, checking on our most vulnerable, speaking with and reassuring our parents, feeding our children both in school and out and keeping our school environment clean and safe.</p> <p>As governors we will continue to do what is necessary without compromising the safety of our staff, children, parents and carers. We have no idea how or when this situation will end and we are all desperate to get back to normality, but it is more likely to be a journey than a specific date in the calendar.</p> <p>Finally, I'd just like to say 'thank you' to you all, for your patience and support during this unprecedented and extremely difficult situation we currently find ourselves in.</p>
<p>How you can contact the Governing Board</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents - please contact governors via the school office. A full list of governors and more information about the school can be found at www.ravensfield.tameside.sch.uk</p>