

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Cockton Hill Junior School
January 2016

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Cockton Hill Junior School Governing Body are:

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.**

Governance arrangements	<p>The Governing Body of Cockton Hill Junior School was re-constituted in May 2015 and is now made up of 1 Staff Governor, 4 Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 2 Associate Governor and 4 Co-opted Governors (1 vacancy). 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: on our Governing Body two of the Co-opted governors are parents, and the remaining two are members of the local community.</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets once each term, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At Cockton Hill Junior School we have a Finance and Premises Committee, which focuses on finance, premises and some personnel matters; a Standards, Teaching and Learning Committee (STAC), and a Behaviour and Safety Committee (BASC). We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.</p>
Attendance record of governors	<p>Governors have good 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).</p>
The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body	<p>The Governing Body has had a particularly busy time, focusing on school improvement, following a recent Ofsted inspection and looking forward to moving ahead with changes alongside a new leadership team.</p> <p>The STAC has spent time evaluating the implementation of a new curriculum and governors have also discussed key data demonstrating the results of pupil achievement and progress. This ensures that the school is on track to fulfil its targets for all pupils. We are also concerned about our "vulnerable groups" of children and focus on how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes.</p> <p>The Premises Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and makes decisions about how the school should use the budget. Mr Cresswell is our Health and Safety Governor and he carries out termly checks of the premises with Mr Raw, the school's site manager. Governors are also particularly concerned about safeguarding so</p>

	<p>regular updates to the governors about any safeguarding matters are given. Early in the summer term 2015, the Finance Committee approved the 2015/16 budget plan for the school: we are pleased to report that the school is in a healthy position financially and can afford to maintain the current staffing structure.</p> <p>One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies, including Behaviour Management and Safeguarding. We also approved a new Attendance Policy, as a result of legislation changes that no longer allow schools to authorise term time holidays. The Governing Body recognises the problem that this may cause for some parents, but we are very pleased that parents are supporting us with these changes.</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>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>The Governing Body is looking forward to working alongside the new leadership team in the autumn term, which will bring exciting changes for the school. We are also considering the development of key governors linked to the wider curriculum and aspects of school in order to develop our roles within school life.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents - please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr Cresswell, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.</p>

Governing Body 2015-2016	
Chair of Governors	Malcolm Cresswell
Vice Chair of Governors	Mary Walton
4 Parent Governors	Bernard Mugwendere Rosina Precious Kathryn Hennessy Marley Mary Walton
1 Local Authority Governors	Janice Stobbs
2 Associate Governors	Jill Cooper Joan Stephens
1 Staff Governor	Vicki Logan
1 Headteacher Governor	Emily Stevens
4 Co-opted Governors	Malcolm Cresswell Laura Stobbs Colette Baker 1 Vacancy
Committee	Members
Finance and Premises	Malcolm Cresswell Emily Stevens Bernard Mugwendere Collette Barker
Behaviour and Safety	Mary Walton Emily Stevens Rosina Precious Laura Stobbs Collette Barker Rosina Sampson Claire Connorton
Standards and Achievement	Janice Stobbs (Chair) Emily Stevens Malcolm Cresswell Bernard Mugwendere Joan Stephens Jill Cooper