

Denmead Infant School

Annual statement of objectives and review of Impact by the governing body 2017 - 2018

“There is no doubt that **pupils love their school** and this is reflected in their above average rates of attendance. They are happy, they feel safe in school and they enjoy learning”.

OFSTED, Feb 2018, who rated the school ‘**Securely Good**’

As governors, we are proud of our school’s achievements while continuing to develop and maintain our school to serve the needs of the local children. Strong outcomes for all groups of pupils will prepare them well, and competitively, for their next stage of education, and the world around them. Our school ethos reflects this:

**Happy together, growing together, aiming high.
Every day a learning adventure.**

With our staff colleagues, we work with a wider community of schools, stakeholders and agencies in order to achieve this.

We appreciate that parents want information that satisfies them about the overall leadership and management of the school. This includes how we ensure that children learn in a safe, enjoyable, nurturing, purposeful environment, and with high expectations; how children are inspired to learn and develop, based on the skill of the staff they work with, and the opportunities they have.

How Our Governing Body Operates

During the academic year 2017-2018, the Full Governing Body (FGB) met six times - once per half term. The constitution during this academic year included two committees: one responsible for Finance and Personnel and the other Standards and Curriculum Committees which both met five times.

We decided in October 2017 to appoint 2 new associate Governors to support all activities. This came into full effect January 2018. At this time the governing body also took the decision to increase the size of the FGB to 14 governors to ensure there was sufficient capacity to complete all the statutory duties.

During the summer term the longstanding chair stated that they would be standing down at the end of the academic year, leading to election of a new

chair September 2018. We also decided to change the structure of the Governing Body, ending the committees and making every meeting a FGB. This will be continually evaluated throughout the year.

School Improvement Plan

The school is a self-improving organisation, continually looking of ways to grow and develop, and ensure that 'Every day is a learning adventure' not just for the children but for the whole school community. We outline our planned improvements in the School Improvement Plan (SIP). Governors agree the plan with the head teacher and hold the head teacher to account for achieving it.

The school identifies the areas for improvement by considering a range of information from Local Authority reports, previous Ofsted reports, pupil outcome data and feedback from parents and carers. The areas for improvement identified for 2017-2018 were:

Priority area 1: Develop the strategic role of all leaders, including those with responsibility for governance, in order to ensure good outcomes for all pupil groups

How governors were involved:

- Worked alongside the head teacher to review leadership structure and appoint new deputy head teacher
- Received reports and information from subject leads for English and Maths, and year group leaders to monitor progress of all children
- Reviewed progress towards School Improvement Plan outcomes every half term
- Met with the Local Authority inspector to review provision and identify next steps
- Met with the Finance Officer to set and monitor the budget, ensured systems were in place for good financial management

Priority area 2: Strengthen the quality of teaching and learning across the school so that all teaching is consistently good or better

How governors were involved:

- Attended work scrutiny and pupil progress sessions with class teachers in order to understand the planning and assessment process.
- Conducted learning walks with senior leaders to monitor the ethos for learning and
- Used observations from visits into school to challenge senior leaders

Priority area 3: Ensure all children know how to keep themselves healthy and safe, through promoting e-safety, healthy diet, exercise, and through timely and smart interventions ensure that the progress of no child is disadvantaged by low attendance

How governors were involved:

- Governors with responsibility for safeguarding and inclusion met regularly with senior leaders to ensure the school fulfils all its statutory duties
- Scrutinised attendance data termly and questioned head teacher on impact of strategies to improve attendance for individual children
- Heard from staff and parents/carers about initiatives such as the daily mile, healthy school week, walking to school, e-safety workshop

Priority area 4: Ensure outcomes at the end of year R and 2 and phonics attainment at the end of year 1 are in line with those for Hampshire and represent good progress for all pupil groups

How governors were involved:

- Received reports on progress of different pupil groups in all year groups each term.
- Scrutinised data analysis to ensure that all pupil groups were making good progress and challenged senior leaders where necessary
- Learnt about the support provided by the LA to improve the teaching of phonics and scrutinised phonics outcomes to ensure that this support had impacted on the progress of children

Ofsted Inspection

The school received a short inspection from Ofsted in February 2018 and was judged to 'Securely Good'. The Ofsted inspector commented,

"There is no doubt that pupils love their school and this is reflected in their above average rates of attendance. They are happy, they feel safe in school and they enjoy learning".

A parent of one of the children at school also commented,

"My children enjoy going to school, they have made some strong friendships and have embraced the strong learning ethos that is so apparent when entering the school."

This was a great achievement and it shows that Governors and the school are continuing to perform well.