

## Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Sheringham Community Primary School and Nursery September 2021

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Sheringham Community Primary School and Nursery Governing Body are:

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

### **Governance arrangements**

As the Governing Board of Sheringham Community Primary School & Nursery we are proud of the school and its welcoming, inclusive ethos. Our Governing Board is made up of 14 governors as follows:

- Two parent governors elected by parents at the school
- One Local Authority governor recommended by the Local Authority
- One staff governor elected by the staff
- One Headteacher governor
- Nine co-opted governors appointed by the Governing Board

We work closely with the Headteacher and senior leaders to ensure the children receive the best education possible, and to ensure that they are happy and safe in school.

The Full Governing Board (FGB) meets at least once a term and there are two committees that look in detail at different aspects of the school. The committees meet each half term. They are the Curriculum and Standards Committee which focuses on educational provision in the school and the Finance and General Purposes Committee which oversees finance, personnel, premises and health and safety.

Individual governors take on specific responsibilities including overseeing provision for children with special educational needs and disability (SEND), monitoring subject areas, overseeing health and safety, and overseeing a rolling programme of maintenance of the school buildings and grounds. The school receives funding each year from the Department of Education for specific areas such as the PE and Sport Grant and governors monitor how this money is spent and what impact it is having on the children's fitness and enjoyment of sport.

The school also receives a significant sum of money called the Pupil Premium Grant and this is determined by the number of children who are eligible for free school meals. This money is used to provide additional support and intervention for our children and governors

	<p>encourage all parents whose children are entitled to free school meals to register for these. Our colleagues in the school office can help with this process.</p> <p>The Full Governing Board and the two committees have terms of reference that set out their responsibilities. You can see the full list of governors and their responsibilities in an accompanying document.</p>
<b>Attendance record of governors</b>	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings, we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). You can see a record of their attendance in an accompanying document.</p>
<b>The work that we have done in our committees and in the governing body</b>	<p><b>2020 – 2021</b></p> <p>Just as parents have had to get up to speed with modern technology and Google Classrooms, governors have had to upskill and embrace Teams and Zoom meetings so that we can continue our work. In this way, we've created a "new normal" way of working.</p> <p>The Curriculum &amp; Standards Committee's first meeting in featured a presentation from Mr Perrem on Science, looking at what's working well, what's been done to develop Science over the last 12 months and what the plans are he has with Miss West to further develop the subject. We then had chance to sample some of the work your children have been doing in this subject. In another meeting, the committee monitored the children's attainment and progress across maths, writing and reading for each year group. We also have the pleasure of reading what some of your children think about being at the school; governors especially liked this one "<i>Sheringham make classes so fun, I'm even starting to enjoy maths</i>".</p> <p>The Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee continued to monitor the school budget and made sure we complied with Department for Education and Local Authority guidance. Governors reviewed how the "Covid catch up funding" was being utilised to support children on their return to school. Governors also maintained their focus on Health &amp; Safety in and around the school and are looking at issues around trip hazards caused by tree roots in the school grounds.</p> <p>We met as a full governing board throughout the year with a key focus on ensuring the school was a safe environment for the children and staff. This included reviewing the risk assessment for the full opening of school in September 2020 and that focus continues even now as I write in October 2021. Mrs Carter provides detailed reports for these meetings covering all aspects of school life and it was great to learn that things were as normal as possible in school so that the children felt settled and safe. Staff became increasingly skilled with remote learning and were able to adapt quickly to the on again/off again nature of school opening caused by Covid during the year. By the time we reached July 2021, we were celebrating reaching the end of the year and the Great</p>

	<p>Escape managed by three of the year groups when visits took place to the beach for geography and two visits to Pretty Corner (one for fun and one as part of nature study).</p> <p>It's been quite a year! Congratulations are due to Mrs Carter and all of the staff at the school for the way they have coped and grown their skills over this period. We should also thank the cleaning staff who have risen to the challenge of keeping surfaces disinfected throughout the school. The development of the school curriculum and creation of the CARES Curriculum during this tumultuous period is a testament to the hard work of the teaching staff.</p>
<p><b>Future plans for the governors</b></p>	<p><b>Looking forward to 2021 – 2022</b></p> <p>Our meetings will continue remotely for now as part of the strategy of reducing the number of visitors to school but we're keeping this under review and hope to be back in school soon. It will be an exciting year with the new curriculum continuing to be developed. The focus on reading will continue and there will be a focus on maths this year too. The health and wellbeing of staff and children will continue to be a focus for governors.</p> <p>We welcome three new governors to the governing board:</p> <p><b>Alison Hulme</b> – new parent governor</p> <p><b>Lauren Flannery</b> – co-opted governor</p> <p><b>Alec Burrows</b> – co-opted governor</p> <p>The school website is a wonderful window on what is happening in school at a time when entry to school is restricted. This link shows some of the great displays around school  <a href="https://www.sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk/school-life/around-our-school/">https://www.sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk/school-life/around-our-school/</a></p> <p>And here you can access the Blog on the CARES Curriculum where you can see some of the work the children are doing  <a href="https://sheringhamcarescurriculum.blogspot.com/">https://sheringhamcarescurriculum.blogspot.com/</a></p> <p>It's a great school to be a pupil in and it's great to be a governor here too!</p>
<p><b>How you can contact the governing body</b></p>	<p>We welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents and you can contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Jill Steward, via the school office or via email at <a href="mailto:chairofgov@sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk">chairofgov@sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk</a>  You can see the full list of governors and their responsibilities, and their attendance at meetings in separate documents.</p>