

GB STATEMENT 2016-2017

The Governing Body faced another busy year in 2016/2017. Our new Deputyhead started in the Autumn of 2016 and there were another number of staff changes.

The School Development Plan set for 2016/17 continues to drive the school ensuring that the level of Good is maintained, striving to achieve Outstanding.

Academy Status

The development of the Multi-Academy Trust continued during this year and the consultations that took place all showed an overwhelming support for us joining the Academy with Hanley Castle High School, Hanley Swan Primary School and Kempsey Primary School. However, in the autumn of 2016 we were offered the possibility of taking over the management of the Children's Centre. As this was a very significant opportunity for our school the Governors decided to work with the Local Education Authority in facilitating this change. Due to complications of the Children's Centre and the Academy we put joining the Hanley and Upton Education Trust on hold until the Riverboats Children's Centre became established under the school's management.

Business Committee

In the October Census of 2016 our pupil numbers were 155 and we now sit at 74% of our full potential. Our financial situation continues to need stringent monitoring and we are working hard to increase our pupil numbers. We have an aim for 162 by September 2017.

Governing Body

At the end of the academic year Dave Walker the Chair came to the end of his office and Yan Gittins was then appointed to take over as Acting Chair until a new Chair could be appointed. The Governors were very grateful to Dave Walker for his drive and energy in steering the GB. The board welcomed Ben Rigby as co-opted Governor and also Emma Davies (as staff Governor).

School Development

The Governors continue their work with the various committees that support school development. We set up a new committee for the Early Years and Riverboats to oversee the work within this area. The impact of taking over the Children's Centre has had a very positive effect on the school, although demands a great deal from the school team. The Centre stays open all year round and the Headteacher is working through the majority of the school holidays to ensure the smooth facilitation of all the new services we are able to offer.

The Governors recognise how important a Children's Centre is for a healthy school role and the Headteacher reports that the impact of the new purpose built front entrance has increased school numbers. We are looking forward to seeing the final allocated number for the autumn census of 2017.

Data

The Governors work behind the scenes with the data and all information is on website for access. We are aware of areas where development may be required to increase pupil's attainment targets and the Assessment Co-ordinator and Headteacher work with the School Improvement Committee to ensure Governors are fully conversant with the current data.

The EYFS for 2017 was 81% (National 71%). Phonics Screening was 81%. Key Stage One - Combined score of Reading, Writing and Maths was 55% against a National of 65%. Key Stage Two - combined score of Reading, Writing and Maths was 59% against a National of 61%. Both results in KS1 and KS2 were below the National. Pupils attainment based on progress measures in KS2 reached the expected

level however in KS1 we sit at 10% below the National which was a disappointing result. Governors are analysing these results and have used the School Development Plan review to ensure that for the next academic year strategies are put in place to improve children's' overall attainment targets.

Our focus for 2017-18 will be a strong focus on reading, writing and maths attainment throughout all phases of school and we will ensure that clarity is given within each area to enable children to have the best possible outcomes.

Our Governing Body is an important part of the leadership and management of our school and should you be interested in joining our organisation there are occasionally vacancies which are advertised on our school's Newsletter or alternatively you could ask in the school office.

Acting Chair: Yan Gittins

Date: September 2017