

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of

Kettlewell Primary School

April 2015

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Kettlewell 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

The Governing Body of Kettlewell School will be reconstituted in July as part of the Upper Wharfedale Federation of Schools, but at the present time is made up of:

Two Local Authority Nominees.....Maggie Mclellan, Anne Vetch
Two Parent Governors.....Carey Doubtfire, Nigel Pearson
One Staff Governor.....Kate Malley
Two Community Governors.....Richard Barlow, Sue Beazley

In attendance

The Headteacher.....Andrew Taylor
Clerk to the Governors.....Tracy Briggs

In order to discharge their duties effectively the Governing Body has a range of skills; These include experience and expertise in Financial Management, Teaching and Learning, School Leadership, Special Educational Needs, Marketing, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Performance Management. The Governing Body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance;

- Monitoring School Improvement/ Teaching and Learning
- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Ad hoc committees convened as appropriate to examine particular aspects of school life e.g. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural
- Ad hoc standing panels, convened as appropriate, to deal with incidents of pupil exclusion, staff capability and complaints.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept, by the clerk to the Governing Body, of Governors' attendance at meetings; details of attendance can be found on application to the clerk.

Meetings need to be 'quorate' (that is half the members plus one) to ensure that decisions can be made.

The work we have done on our committees and in the Governing Body meetings revolves around the school development plan.

Our priorities for the academic year 2014- 2015 have been to work with Headteacher, School Manager and all staff;

1. To ensure that teaching and learning is at least consistently good for all pupils and that all make at least expected progress.

We have done this primarily by;

- Supporting the Headteacher with monitoring the work of teachers and pupils in the classroom and asking for evidence to demonstrate progress at individual and whole school level
- Examining and challenging internal and external performance and progress data
- Ensuring the judgements of staff and the Headteacher are in line with local and national standards through Local Authority validation
- Ensuring that the individual needs of pupils are met through appropriate interventions by scrutiny of data and regular visits by the SEN Governor

2. To plan for a secure sustainable future for the school.

We have done this primarily by;

- Cementing our partnership with UWS and planning for Federation
- Making judicious decisions relating to staffing
- Celebrating our success and marketing our school across a wide area
- Approaching other cluster schools with regard to federation

In addition we have undertaken our statutory duties with regard to;

- Financial Management
- Safeguarding
- Performance Management of the Headteacher

- Health and Safety
- Reviewing and updating statutory policies
- Monitoring the effectiveness of pupil premium and sports premium funding

Governors have undertaken a variety of training including Local Authority Networks, OFSTED preparation, School Improvement, Safeguarding, Finance, National Curriculum developments and assessment

Our major aims for the forthcoming year 2015 to 2016 are as follows;

1. To continue to ensure that teaching and learning are at least consistently good and work towards their becoming outstanding for all pupils.
2. To respond to local and national initiatives and developments particularly surrounding the new curriculum and assessment methods.
3. To develop and enhance our SMSC programme.
4. To work effectively within the newly established Federation by securing a consistent, sustainable and cost-effective staffing structure in both schools.

Anne Vetch
Chair of Governors

April 2015

Information about how to contact members of the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website