



## Governors' Annual Statement to Parents

I am delighted to be writing to you as parents with our annual governors' statement. This is our opportunity to let you know what we are doing on behalf of Downsell Primary School. Below is a short summary of our activities but please do look at the school website where the Governors' pages have a lot more information: [http://www.downsellprimary.org/SAP.aspx?pid=Governors\\_en-GB](http://www.downsellprimary.org/SAP.aspx?pid=Governors_en-GB)

### **Governance Arrangements**

The Governing Body is made up of seven positions as follows:

- Two Parent Governors appointed by a ballot of parents
- One Local Authority Governor
- One Staff Governor appointed by a ballot of staff
- The Head Teacher
- Two Co-opted Governors appointed by the Governing Body

Our annual meeting planner helps us to ensure all the topics we are required to discuss each year are covered.

We have one formal sub-committee and others, as required, that perform much of the detailed work in accordance with their terms of reference. .

### **Attendance Record and Skills Analysis**

On our website are copies of the governing body's annual attendance record which details who attended each meeting. In the autumn term of each academic year the Governing body also completes an annual skills analysis; we use this to inform us of our training and development needs and to help to identify gaps that we can fill when recruiting to our vacancies.

### **Effectiveness and Impact of the Board**

Following our last Ofsted inspection, which took place in April 2016, we have radically altered the nature and composition of the governing body in order to meet the key challenges set out in its report. These were to strengthen leadership and management and to improve the quality of

# Downsell

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teaching, and the rate of pupils' progress. We now have a dynamic governing body with each member possessing a wide range of pertinent skills in order to assist the headteacher and all the staff in making Downsell an even better school for your children

In conjunction with the headteacher and the senior leadership team, the governing body is focussed upon improving the educational outcomes for all its pupils. This means assessing the impact of key measures undertaken by the school whether they be, for example, the results of external tests, the quality of teaching in the classroom, the rate of attendance or the benefit of Pupil Premium funding. We are glad to report that all the key indicators demonstrate that the school is on an upward trajectory although there are never grounds for complacency and the governing body is extremely vigilant about monitoring the school's progress

The School Improvement Plan is at the heart of what we do and the headteacher, the SLT and the governing body are in an ongoing dialogue about the impact of the measures taken to improve the quality of education at Downsell. (Copies are available on request to the school.)

We are happy to report that despite extraordinary budgetary pressures, the school is in a financially stable position.

The school has expanded its nursery provision from 45 to 55 for each session and there is already a waiting list for places at Downsell.

Downsell Primary school welcomes parents and some of our forthcoming events include World Book Day, Science Week and Downsell's Got Talent! We would be delighted to see parents at the talent event on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 6.00pm.

Thank you for reading this summary. We are more than happy to meet parents and appointments can be made via the school office. We look forward to reporting on even greater success next year.

On behalf of the governing board

Martin Doré

Chair of Governors