

Summerhill School Governing Board Annual Governance Statement 2017/2018

In accordance with the governance requirements for all Governing Boards, the three core strategic functions are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction
- Holding the Executive Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the School and its pupils and for the performance management of the staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the School and making sure its money is well spent.

Our Instrument of Governance is comprised of the following categories

2 Parents

1 Staff

1 Local Authority

10 Co-opted

1 Headteacher

We currently have vacancies for three co-opted Governors, which we are looking to fill during the new academic year. The skills we are looking for are human resources, education and commercial.

During the year we welcomed a new Parent Governor, Mr Paul Van Veen and four new Co-opted Governors, Mrs Jane Owen, Mrs Donna Green-Smith, Mrs Catherine Ludwig and Mr Simon Hartland and said a sad farewell to Mrs Louise Bashford, who resigned due to work commitments after four years' service.

The full governing board is scheduled to meet six times this academic year. At the end of the last academic year the governing board reviewed its committee structure and now consists of three committees to consider different aspects of the School in detail and five other committees to carry out statutory functions. These committees are:

- Finance and Staffing
- Curriculum, Standards and Student Welfare
- Strategic
- Pay
- Performance Management
- Pupil Discipline
- Staff Discipline
- Appeals

The work that has been completed by governors during the past year include:

- Monitoring of the School Improvement Plan
- Recruitment of staff
- Scheduled policies and procedures updated and reviewed
- Monitoring of School finances
- Tracking of pupil progress
- Training in different aspects of the role
- Attendance at school performances, open days and parental evenings
- Met with Ofsted Inspectors during the one day inspection which took place during the second half of the Summer Term.

As we enter a new academic year, the governing board very much looks forward to continuing to work with the school to build on its successes, improve community links and relationships with parents and carers.

Carol Fletcher
Chair of Governors