

## Glenbrook Primary School – Local Governing Body

Welcome to the Governors section of Glenbrook Primary School. I do hope that you enjoy browsing through our website and learning more about us.

### World-Class Governance

In February 2017, Glenbrook Primary School was inspected and secured a ‘good’ judgement by Ofsted for effective leadership and management. However, the Governing Body would like to emulate world-class governance which is essential for continuous and sustainable improvement – more so today than ever before. There is now greater scrutiny on governance and we are working hard to Glenbrook at the forefront of educational excellence, innovation and creativity.

Our Ofsted inspection, February 2017, said of governance:

*“The Governing Body is playing an effective strategic role in ensuring that the pace of improvement is brisk. Governors are rightly proud of the improvement they have helped to secure since the school’s conversion to an academy. They can also explain well the impact these have brought to pupils. However, they are also passionate that the rate of these improvements must continue, in order that the school can become a beacon of excellence in the community.*

*Governors explained to inspectors how they work well with the representatives of the multi-academy trust, who provide them with high-quality training, advice and support. This helps governors to hold senior leaders to account rigorously. Governors feel that the Trust does not excessively direct or constrain their work, but they give them good levels of independence in order for them to function well as a cohesive team.*

*Governors check that senior leaders are improving the quality of teaching by overseeing the arrangements for performance management and by visiting the school regularly to discuss pupils’ outcomes and the actions that leaders need to take next”.*

### Who are our Governors?

Each Governor has a set of different skills, expertise and experience. We will be developing our Governor profiles on an on-going basis.

Governors	
Patricia Shaw	Chair, appointed 10 October 2014
Scott Roebuck	Vice Chair, Parent Governor, appointed 1 February 2014
Kirsty Ryan	Head of School, appointed 1 September 2017
Wendy Smith	Community Governor, appointed 1 February 2014
Stephen Dawn	Parent Governor, appointed 21 May 2015

Marie McCoy	Staff Governor, appointed 1 February 2014
Jennifer Davis	Staff Governor, appointed 19 January 2015

## Committee Structure

As well as the Full Governing Body meetings we have a number of Committees which are the main conduit for the work of the Governors. The Committees are:

- Strategic Pupil and Personnel
- School Improvement
- Finance

Details of which Governors are on which Committee is given in the document section below.

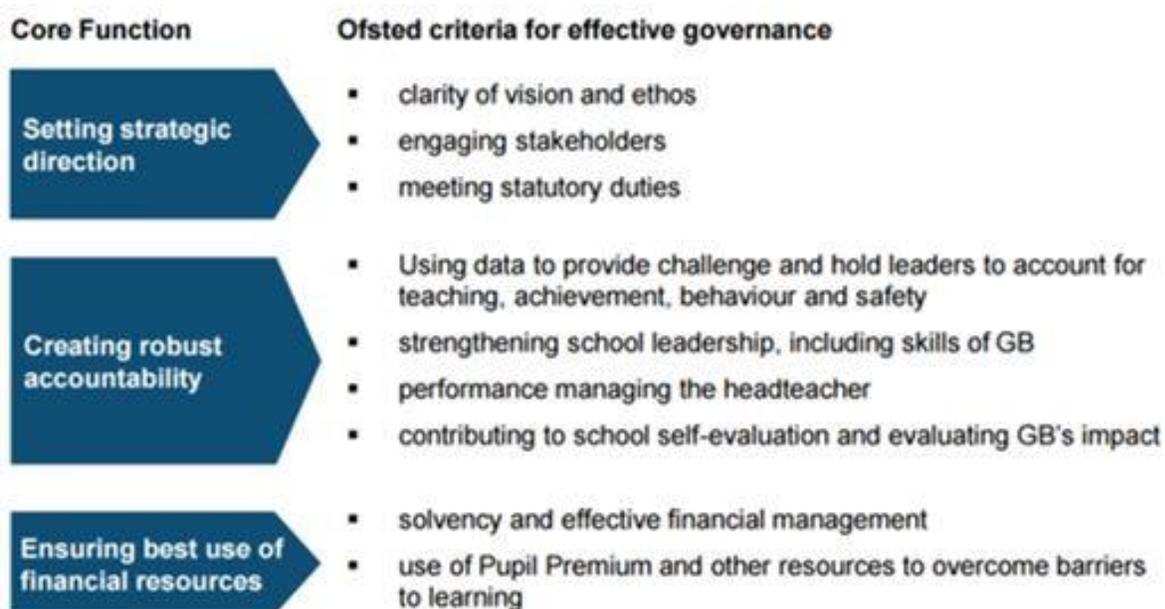
## When do we meet?

The Full Governing Body and each Committee meets once a term to discuss particular matters. Dates of our Committee meetings are also given in the documents section below.

## What do we actually do?

During each academic year, Governors will conduct monitoring visits to see how the overall performance of the school is doing. During these visits, Governors get the chance to speak to staff and students and see the school in action. Our Governors are invited to attend a range of school events and productions that celebrate our pupil, staff and wider school community.

## The core functions of a Governing Body are:



The Handbook was last updated in January 2017:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook>

The DfE also launched in January 2017: **'A Competency Framework for Governance'**. This document outlines the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed for effective governance, but in brief can be shown as:



In addition, we:

- Provide a strategic view of the school by establishing a vision and setting the purpose and aims of the school within an agreed policy framework.
- Appoint and conduct the performance management of the Principal.
- Agree the school's improvement strategy, which includes setting statutory targets with supporting budgets and staffing structures.
- Monitor and evaluate the work of the school by reviewing the performance of the Principal, the effectiveness of the policy framework, progress towards targets and the effectiveness of the school improvement strategy.
- Sign off the self-evaluation process and respond to Ofsted reports as necessary.

### **For the Autumn Term 2017, we will be focusing on:**

- Strategic planning –school improvement and target setting
- Governance strategic direction – exploring the potential of working closely with Governors from Portland Spencer Academy and action planning
- Statutory duties – elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Chairs of Committees and completion of annual legal documentation
- Reviewing arrangements for Special Educational Needs and Disability and other vulnerable pupil groups
- Reviewing pupil numbers and marketing arrangements to ensure that Glenbrook is the School of choice.

### **During the Summer Term 2017, we focused on:**

- Agreeing our budget for 2017-2018 and our longer-term budget predictions.
- Ensuring that our staffing structure is fit for purpose for 2017-2018.
- Reviewing the pupil numbers for the next academic year and agreeing any marketing initiatives to ensure that we are a school of choice.
- Monitoring of SAT exam arrangements by the school (May 2017).
- Analysing the exam results later in July, along with the impact of additional funding streams to support attainment.
- Reviewing the progress made against the school improvement plan and what needs to be carried forward into 2017-2018.
- Reviewing our self-evaluation processes for both the school and the governance.
- Monitoring of safeguarding arrangements within the school.

We also discussed a range of other ongoing themes such as Health & Safety, Policies and determining our role in external reviews such as Challenge Partners.

### **Chairs Development**

Our Chair meets with other Chairs in The Spencer Academies Trust and provides a feedback report to the Directors of the Trust on the work of the LGB, including celebrations and challenges. This network provides the opportunity to find out what's new and what the expectations are on Governors going forward – both from the Trust, Government and Ofsted.

## **Governor Training**

Since September 2016, the following Training has been undertaken by one or more Governors:

- Safeguarding including the Prevent Duty, Female Genital Mutilation and Safer Recruitment.
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) – to keep abreast of latest legislation.
- Induction - Effective Governance - which is an induction/refresher on the role of school governor.
- Inspection Dashboard - how to interpret the performance data.
- Preparing for an external review/inspection.
- Conducting a School Visit.
- Health & Safety – the role of Governors.

## **Governor Resignations**

We sadly we said farewell to a number of long-standing Governors during the summer 2017: Rob Wood and Nicola Shaw. Both Rob and Nicola were responsible for helping bring about change at the school and we thank them for their invaluable contribution and support.

## **Memberships**

The Trust has supported our school with membership to the National Governors Association (NGA). This allows Governors to keep abreast of important changes and ensures that we are as up-to-date as possible with legislation in school governance.

## **Clerking**

We commission an independent Clerk, Hazel Charlton, who clerks all the Governor meetings. Hazel has completed the Clerks Development Programme, run by the National College and also attends the Trust Clerks briefings and development days.

## **The Spencer Academies Trust**

Our school is part of The Spencer Academies Trust', which is a charitable company limited by guarantee, and as such they are required to comply with 'The Companies Act 2006' [www.companieshouse.gov.uk](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk). For information and documents about The Spencer Academies Trust, please visit [www.satrust.com](http://www.satrust.com)