

## **ABBOTS RIPTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023-24**

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School throughout the course of the 2022-23 academic year.

#### **Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance**

The Instrument of Government for Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School allows for 14 governors across different categories.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 10. A new Associate Governor was elected for the term of one year in September 2023. We currently have two Foundation Governor vacancies that the Governing Body continues to work hard to recruit to, working closely with our three Parochial Church Councils.

Through the course of the 2022-2023 Academic Year, there were no significant changes in the Governing Body composition, although several new members were welcomed.

Over the course of the 2022-23 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been chaired by Mr James Harrison, with Mrs Elizabeth Pendered as Vice Chair.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Mrs Linda Nixon, as Clerk to Governors.

Over the course of the year, Governors at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work. Further information about governor attendance can be found on the school website.

#### **The Structure of Governance**

As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School also has three sub-committees, in order to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage.

The school names these committees as:

- Resources, Health, Safety, Security, Property and Wellbeing Committee – which mainly deals with HR, Finance, including Pupil Premium expenditure and impact, Sports Premium expenditure and impact, Health and Safety, Premises and Wellbeing.
- Data, Evaluation and Monitoring Committee – which mainly deals with the curriculum, assessment, data and SEND.

- Faith Matters Committee – which has an oversight of our church school foundation and ensures that all areas of the school remains distinctly Christian. This also includes an oversight of our SIAMS self-evaluation process.

All three committees and the Governing Body overall have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility.

In addition to the above, the school also constitutes a Pay Committee and Headteacher Performance Management Committee annually.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

### **Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has maintained a full programme of meetings, and has continued to adapt to meeting successfully with a mixture of online and face to face meetings. The Governing Body have demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Receiving regular updates from our head teacher on the effectiveness of our School Development Plan.
- Monitoring of attendance for all children, and continuing to offer support to the children and families whose low attendance has an effect on their learning.
- A strong focus on ensuring the wellbeing of staff, children and families at our school.
- A continued focus on the long-term sustainability and strategy of our school.
- Ensuring that the school was suitably prepared for our SIAMS inspection in Autumn 2022.

### **Impact of the work of the Resources, Health, Safety, Security, Property and Wellbeing (HSSPW) Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Resources/HSSPW Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- The completion of the onsite nursery and all legal and practical aspects associated with this.
- Discussing and monitoring the use of Covid catch-up funding, alongside Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding.
- The ability to deliver the school budget for the school year, and to set a balanced budget for the following year.

- Arrangements for a new classroom structure moving onto 2023/2024 due to the needs of the EYFS class 2022.
- The successful completion of the Schools Financial Value Standard
- Conducting a Staff Wellbeing Questionnaire

### **Impact of the work of the Data, Evaluation and Monitoring Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Data, Evaluation and Monitoring Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Continuing development of our whole school curriculum to include new resources.
- Reviewing the implementation of a new phonics programme.
- Monitoring of termly data and end of year outcomes.
- Monitoring of progress against targets in the School Development Plan

### **Impact of the work of the Faith Matters Committee**

Over the course of the last academic year, the Faith Matters Committee has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Supporting our RE lead and the whole staff in the continued development of our self-evaluation against the SIAMS Framework.
- Monitoring of RE learning including book looks and pupil voice.
- Taking an active role in our successful SIAMS inspection in which we were judged as excellent in all areas.

### **Governor Training**

Governors work is collectively undertaken, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses including;

- Whole governing body Safeguarding Training delivered by Headteacher
- Training delivered by Cambridgeshire Governor Services and NGA Training packages which are available for all to access.
- Induction of new Governors.

### **Governor Monitoring**

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked to different areas of the curriculum).

- Safeguarding visits half termly with the Safeguarding lead Governor
- Finance meetings with the school's Financial Advisor
- Staff personal development
- Curriculum visits on a variety of subject areas
- Collective Worship observations

### **Forward Planning**

Following the above impact of 2022-2023, the Governing Body looks forward to continuing it's work in the forthcoming academic year. This will include;

- To monitor the standards in English and Maths, in order that all children make good progress which meets the school's high expectations for all learners.
- To continue to monitor the curriculum in order to ensure that the quality of education received by pupils at Abbots Ripton is strong.
- Continue to further strengthen governors role in monitoring the curriculum and it's effectiveness for all children as well as for specific groups.
- Continue to monitor the impact of staff, children and their families' mental health and wellbeing.
- Continuing to monitor the impact of SEND provision, catch-up funding and other funding in school (Pupil Premium, Sports Premium).

### **Other information and contact**

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at [http://www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk/website/our\\_governing\\_body\\_/209682](http://www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk/website/our_governing_body_/209682)

This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to [jharrison@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:jharrison@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk)