

Governing Body Annual Statement 2023

At Hunslet Moor Primary School, we recognise the importance of identifying and demonstrating the impact of our governance. We hope this statement is useful in sharing the work of the governors and their contribution to and impact on school improvement and development.

Who are we?

The governing board includes parents, staff, and members of the local community. You can view the current list of governors here: <https://www.hunsletmoor.co.uk/our-school/governors/>

Why are we here?

The governing board has the strategic responsibility for the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and the policies of the Leeds Local Authority. The governing board meets as a whole board a minimum of four times a year.

What is our Role?

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

You can find out more about how we do this below.

How do we do this?

The governors report on the objectives through the Teaching and Learning (T&L) Committee, Pupil Support (PS) Committee and Resources (Rs) Committee. The governors visit the school regularly and report on the progress made towards the school development plan priorities. Over the year governors will undertake a number of activities in order to monitor progress, these include:

- Visiting the school to see the work that is being undertaken to achieve the objectives outlined in the School Development Plan
- Conducting surveys of pupils, parents and staff
- Inviting members of the SLT to meetings to report on and discuss key areas

How are we supported and developed?

The governors and school are supported by external advisors who provide an outside view of the performance and report on our strengths and areas for improvement. Actions plans are part of development for all of us. We undertake a wide range of training to help us carry out our roles, in the past year the governors have had development in Early Years, Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment and more.

How do I join?

We regularly review our skills and recruit governors who can further add to our work at Hunslet Moor. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please do not hesitate to get in touch through the school office who will pass your details on.

What we have done this year:

Pupil Support Committee

The Pupil Support Committee works to support all pupils at Hunslet Moor, and supports staff to create an inclusive, engaging, and pleasant place to learn. We meet regularly to get updates from the Headteacher and leadership team about what has been going on and to look at future plans. We also invite other members of staff to present to us and we love hearing from the school council members. This year we have been able to meet in person again, which has been great. We have helped to create and open The Silver Birch provision, which is a specialist learning space for children who need additional support. We have also been working very hard with the teaching and support staff to help children catch up on learning missed through the pandemic, as well as supporting the school to provide as many enrichment programs as possible. We ensure that children are able to have a varied and balanced lunch menu, and to keep the cost of school meals as low as possible. We are very proud to support a free breakfast snack and drink for EVERY pupil.

Teaching and Learning Committee

As a committee we are responsible for ensuring that there is strategic oversight of the teaching and learning at Hunslet Moor and this year that has included external moderation visits, oversight of our Read, Write Inc phonics programme, quality assurance visits as well as scrutiny from our external advisor. As a committee we have received verbal and written reports from leaders in school around the curriculum development and teacher development in key subject areas. We also carefully monitor the outcomes of the phonics screening check results, the year 4 multiplication checks as well as the Year 6 SATs results. Governors of the committee are regularly invited to accompany the SLT in learning walks which are used to assess the quality of education and the findings are discussed at our committee meeting.

Resources Committee

During the last year the resources committee has continued to oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure its money is well spent. We do this by planning in great detail the income and expenditure school receives and monitoring the impact of the interventions that are funded. We also look closely at how and where sports premium and pupil premium is spent and again what impact it had. In addition to the budgetary responsibility of the committee we spend time on:

- Staffing matters including a review of teachers performance management
- Recruitment of new staff
- The health and wellbeing of the whole staff team
- Educational visits including the residential trip

- Updates to the school premises including any repairs, redecoration and general maintenance

Ofsted requirements - Our last inspection by Ofsted was in November 2018. The inspector confirmed that the school continues to be good, and that “Leaders have worked relentlessly and have successfully transformed the school since the last inspection” and “The governors provide a strong strategic direction and oversight.” The full inspection report can be found here: <http://www.hunsletmoor.co.uk/our-school/ofsted-report/>

Performance Management Committee

The governing body is responsible for the performance management of the Head Teacher annually. Together, with expert assistance from an independent educational advisor, we set targets which are closely aligned to the school development plan and review the progress towards these targets throughout the year, with the support of an external adviser.

A brief statement from the Chair of Governors

As a group of governors we conduct our business through a combination of virtual and in-person meetings. We attend the committee meetings outlined above to understand and gain knowledge in areas of strengths and weakness in teaching and practices within the school. We use different sources of information from the school and around the country to try and get the full picture about how the school is doing and what more we can do to support both the pastoral and educational development of our children. We are proud to work closely with the Headteacher and whole staff team. One way we do this is by each governor having one or more areas of the curriculum that they are responsible for monitoring. This link governor arrangement assists us in assessing how well the school is performing. We ensure frequent visits to see the teaching and learning in action and to meet with key members of staff and our children. As governors we strive to be inclusive and value the contribution of all members. We continue to build a strong and cohesive team in partnership with the Co-Headteachers that has a clear shared vision with the school, understands data and ensures that we have the interests of the pupils at Hunslet Moor at the centre of our decisions and actions. As a school we want to provide a safe environment for pupils to thrive, a place where they are encouraged to recognise and achieve their full potential. We are committed to our community becoming a high achieving community that will meet the needs of all pupils and their parents. If you would like to find out more about us and our role as Hunslet Moor Primary School governors, please take a look at our profiles. If you have something you wish to bring to a Governor’s attention, there are several ways you can get in touch: <https://www.hunsletmoor.co.uk/contact>