

## Annual Governor Statement 2019 – 2020

Here follows the annual governance statement of Synergy Schools Governing Body:

### Synergy Schools Federation

Brompton on Swale Church of England Primary School  
Crakehall Church of England Primary School

### Membership

- Executive Head
- 2 Head of Schools
- 3 Foundation Governors
- 6 Co-opted Governor
- 2 Parent Governor
- 1 Local Authority Governor and Staff Governor.

10 Full Governing Body meetings per year. Each meeting includes a welcome, apologies, minutes, health and safety, safeguarding and correspondence. The September meeting sees us declare any business interests and we did Governor training every other meeting.

Having ended our first academic year being a Federation on the high of Crakehall receiving a Good overall Ofsted inspection with Outstanding for Leadership and Management we moved into September 2019 with positivity. Like us and the rest of the world the academic year 2019 – 2020 with the advent of COVID 19 has seen huge changes and challenges to every aspect of life. Our leadership team have managed the schools successfully and all the staff have worked together to ensure high class teaching was delivered both in and out of school. The federation worked together to produce a huge on-line learning package for all children and ensured that everyone could access it. Year 6 managed to get back into the schools for the last few weeks of term before moving up to secondary school and we also opened fully for reception classes and year 1. Vulnerable children and key worker children were catered for throughout lockdown.



## Sept 2019

Ratified PANs; 30 Brompton 20 Crakehall.

Need to fill Foundation Governor vacancy.

Agreed specific roles for Governors and appointed to monitor various aspects of the Federation Improvement Plan (FIP).

Agreed the questionnaire for the Staff questionnaire.

*Policies Ratified:* Brompton's Swimming policy, Accessibility plan and policy, Attendance management policy.

### IMPACT Statements

- Agreed priorities for improvement across Federation.
- Agreed priorities for Governor Action Planning.
- Pursued appointment in support of implementing the wellbeing strategy.

## Oct 2019

50 words introduction form each Governor for the website.

English, Maths and Head Teachers reports challenged and assessed in detail.

FIP agreed.

Discussions on the future management of Busy Bees preschool.

Training: Ofsted framework led by Mike White.

*Policies Ratified:* Pay, Medicine Administration, Supporting pupils with medical conditions, Child Protection Policies.

### Impact Statements

- Decision made to move forward taking over Busy Bees to secure a pre school for the village.
- Governors more aware of changes with the new Ofsted framework and impact on their monitoring.
- Governors have evaluated English and Maths reports.

## Nov 2019

Progress through Governing Body Action Plan.

Reviewed both schools' websites and checked compliance with statutory requirements.

Reviewed performance management procedures and ratified any pay increases for staff.

Feedback received from Staff Questionnaire challenged and follow up plans made as required.

Church school distinctiveness update.

Update for a Governor led preschool at Brompton.

Update on a new school field at Crakehall.

Update on renovations to get Busy Bees into main school building at Brompton and allow BOS kids to stand alone.

Reviewed revised budgets.



*Policies Ratified* Safeguarding, food, substance use and abuse policies.

### **Impact Statements**

- Robust challenge to the performance management review.
- Actions taken form Staff responses in questionnaire.
- Governors informed of pupil led church school distinctiveness in “Worship Warriors” at Crakehall and a new school prayer for Brompton to promote the Federations vision.

### **Jan 2020**

Considered outcomes of Autumn term assessments.

Head Teacher report robustly challenged.

Progress towards completion of SFVS (financial procedures).

Swaledale Alliance update.

Progress on Busy Bees.

Governor Training: Update on schools’ curricula development work led by Exec Head and Heads of Schools.

*Policies Ratified*: Schools Reorganisation, Redundancy and Redeployment, CCTV privacy policies.

### **Impact Statements**

- Governors have considered recent curriculum developments across federation.
- Considered reports from English and Maths Autumn assessment data.

### **Feb 2020**

Update on the FIP.

Parents questionnaire content agreed.

Progress towards completing the SFVS.

Discussed the way governors manage the federation revers budgets.

Busy Bees update.

Coxon team beginning work on Crakehall new school field.

*Policies Ratified*: Collective worship (Brompton), Allegations of abuse against staff, Disciplinary and Capability policies (Synergy).

### **Impact Statements**

- Unanimous vote to move to a Federation budget.
- Robust challenge to figures for Maths within FIP.
- Comprehensive discussions regarding use of IT for teaching and learning and positive impact this has on pupils.



## March 2020

SENDCo report challenged.

Head Teachers report challenged.

Church School distinctiveness update.

Federations safeguarding procedures revised.

Accessibility plan and disability equality scheme reviewed.

Busy Bees – ratified adoption to bring under the governing of the Federation.

Health and Safety reports discussed.

Governor Training: SEND training led by Mrs Tamara Hayman.

Policies Ratified: Recruitment and Selection, Budget Management, Developing performance policies.

### Impact Statements

- Governors have a better understanding of the SEN categories and how children are assessed and the monitoring of the progress of SEN children across the Federation.
- The Governors agreed proposals for the new FS area to ensure better provision.

## April 2020

First virtual meeting. Held on Microsoft Teams.

Feedback form the parents questionnaire reviewed and challenged.

Governor Training: IT training on the plans for delivering education for Summer 2020 with Covid 19 closing the schools except for Key workers and Vulnerable children.

Policies Ratified: Amendment to Child protection policy, Parental leave policy.

## May 2020

Local broadband issues so technical issues and most attendees ended up on their mobile phones but we persevered.

Approved Start budget.

Head teachers report challenged and questioned in detail.

We were unable to conduct a pupil progress check.

Update on financial matters; Furlough of staff.

Financial overrun report considered.

Finally secured a Foundation Governor for our vacancy. Will go through due process to get him on board.

## June 2020

Considered evaluation of academic data from Spring term (assessments rushed through as the country went into lock down (year 6 did 9 assessments in 1 week) and those children not in school had online one to one assessment with their teachers.



Discussions about possible collaborations with Leeming and Londonderry and Pickhill Federation, Head is retiring.

Information on the Staffing structure for 20/21.

Church school distinctiveness update.

Agreed the contents of the pupil questionnaire but decision not to do until Autumn term.

Continuation of agreement that Richmond Town FC U9's use the Brompton field.

Building work update.

*Policies Ratified:* Charges policy for Pre-school.

## July 2020

Update regarding building works due.

Update on Staff and Pupil wellbeing and preparations for September.

Update regarding a collaboration with Pickhill and Leeming and Londonderry Foundation.

General thanks and future meeting plan proposed.

## Attendance 2019-2020


| Governor         | Percentage attendance at FGB meetings |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mairi Reed       | 100                                   |
| Liz Weatherby    | 100                                   |
| Andrea Offord    | 100                                   |
| Victoria Eardley | 90                                    |
| Lynda Player     | 90                                    |
| Janette Stewart  | 90                                    |
| Louise Atkinson  | 90                                    |
| Jo MacLelland    | 90                                    |
| Steve Woolmer    | 80                                    |
| Chris Lawton     | 70                                    |
| Sally Harrod     | 50                                    |
| James Coxon      | 50                                    |

## Notes

Once the meeting went virtual, they were conducted earlier due to heavy usage online starting at 17.30 which made it difficult for Sally to attend and impossible for James.



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