



A Community Growing in Love for Learning and Life – Rooted in God’s Love.

THE GOVERNORS ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

END OF YEAR REPORT- JULY 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governors at St Francis have been busy during the year carrying out their duties of ensuring the school is ‘doing what it says it is doing’. The Governing Body has three main committees and I will give a brief account of what each has been doing.

FULL GOVERNING BODY (FGB)

The FGB met each term and received reports from the Headteacher on the school’s performance and has been able to question all aspects of the report. We have checked and approved policies and procedures, received minutes of meetings held by the Finance and Premises and Curriculum committees and received written and verbal reports of all monitoring visits made by individuals and teams of Governors.

FINANCE AND PREMISES COMMITTEE (F&P)

The F&P Committee met four times to receive reports on the financial position of the school in relation to the budget and to have explanations of where variations have arisen against budget prior to submission to the Local Authority. The Committee also examined in detail the annual budget prior to approval by the FGB and submission to the Local Authority. It should be noted that Local Authority Funding for each pupil has been reduced by 1.5% and High Needs Funding by 30% which has resulted in reserves having to be used to balance the 2018/19 budget.

The Committee also has a duty to monitor the condition of the premises and receives reports on non-routine issues that occur.

Governors have paid several unannounced visits to monitor Health and Safety both in the school buildings and in the grounds. Only minor issues have been found and these have been reported for action.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The Curriculum Committee have met on four occasions to examine and question data that is produced on pupil progress. From this data and the School Improvement Plan a schedule of monitoring visits was drawn up again to check that the school is ‘doing what it says it is doing’

Many innovative programmes and initiatives are being introduced to ensure that pupils progress is being monitored and maintained and improved at all levels.

All monitoring reports have been very positive in every aspect of the curriculum that has been looked at in detail and issues going forward have been highlighted. Extracurricular activities have been expanded to cater for all pupils'.

SAFEGUARDING

This subject is treated most seriously by Governors and receives a prominent place on each FGB meeting and a member is appointed as Safeguarding Governor. A number of monitoring visits have been made to check that all legal requirements for safeguarding your children were being met and that any issues and concerns raised by staff are being dealt with speedily.

Governors attended the NSPCC presentations for pupils which were very informative and presented in a very appropriate way.

TRAINING

Governors have attended a number of training courses both this and in previous years to improve and update their knowledge for specific and committee roles.

COMMUNICATIONS

I am all too aware that communication with parents and carers has been lacking. The Board has had significant problems with clerical support which has impacted on our ability to communicate via the website. We have recently appointed a new Clerk and I am confident that we will be able to communicate more frequently.

GOVERNORS

We are seeking additional Governors either Parent or Foundation (Diocesan Appointed) if you would like to know more about the role please contact me, e-mail details- I.fraser@st-francis.kent.sch.uk

CONCLUSIONS

From all the meetings attended , monitoring visits made and contacts with staff, St Francis is in the right place to ensure that when a pupil leaves it will be with the knowledge that they will be 'the best that they can possibly be'.

I would like to thank all staff for their help and cooperation in making the Governors' task easy and to say that they are all members of a very hard working, with strongly led, dedicated team.

Finally I would like to wish all those pupils leaving on 20th July every success at their new schools and hope that they will be leaving with fond memories of St Francis.

Ian Fraser

Chair of Governors