

Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC Primary School

Governors Annual Report to Parents

7pm on Monday 17th October 2016

Hello and welcome, thank you all for coming here tonight. This is the Governors Annual Report for 2015/16.

So much hard work has gone on over the past year, our pupils, staff, parents and governors have made sure that we continue to provide a safe and happy place for our children to learn and grow.

We started the year with 151 pupils on role, a number that didn't change until Easter when one pupil moved house and left the school, ending the year with 150 pupils on role.

During the year, the number of children with varying forms of Special Educational Need rose during the year from 20% (30 children) to 24% (34 children). The number of pupils entitled to Free School Meals was 15 (10%) at the start of the year and 18 (12%) at the end.

Attendance continues to improve year on year and reached 97.15% last year. All pupils with poor attendance have either had significant health issues and have been supported during their absence and on their return to school or have had rapidly improving attendance due to 'phone calls, text messages, letters to parents, rewards for full week attendance (name in the Happy Book) and lots of individual encouragement.

Our children in EYFS have again made very good progress, building on their confidence and learning power during the year. The percentage of children achieving a Good Level of Development was 86.4%. This compares favourably to the Wiltshire figure of 70.8% and the national figure of 69.3%. Whilst this is very encouraging it should be noted that levels of Special Educational Needs are very low in this cohort.

Year One Phonics screening results puts above the school above the national average when two pupils with significant SEN are taken into account. The reported data is 76.2% of our children in Y1 working at the expected standard in Y1 phonics compared to the national figure of 80.6%. Once our data has been changed to take into account these two pupils the school's figure is 84%. (This shows how levels of SEN in small cohorts can really skew the data)

A small number of pupils were involved in the Year 2 phonics retesting. Our reported results read at 62.5% of our pupils achieving the expected standard for phonics re-tests below the national average of 66.7%. However, when the figures are adjusted to take into account one pupil with significant SEND the figure changes to 71% putting our data above the national average.

Key Stage One SATS results were also broadly in line with national averages when the figures are adjusted to take into account a pupil with significant SEN.

Reading = 68% reported / 71% adjusted (74% NA)

Writing = 64% reported / 67% adjusted (66% NA)

Maths = 64% reported / 67% adjusted (72.6% NA)

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in all three subjects is at the National average when adjusted. (63% compared to the NA of 64%)

Key Stage Two SATS results were below the national average. To contextualise this cohort it is important to note that 35% of the pupils had SEND. At the end of the EYFS only 44% had a good level of development and at the end of KS1 29% had achieved the expected level in all three subjects. Needless to say they made good progress. (More about that later)

Attainment:

Reading = 48% reported / (65.7% NA)

Writing = 73.9% reported / (74% NA)

Grammar, punctuation and Spelling = 47.8% reported / (72.4% NA)

Maths = 35% reported / (69.7% NA)

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in all three subjects is below the national average at 30.4% compared to the NA of 53.2%

It is interesting to note that the children achieved better (in writing) when they were teacher assessed rather than 'tested'. Cynics may say this may be 'rose coloured spectacles', however the writing was moderated and a number of children did crumble under the pressure of the long reading test and the maths papers.

To return to the subject of progress the cohort did in fact make very good progress. The floor targets were set at -5 for reading and maths and -7 for writing.

The school achieved -0.8 for reading, -2.7 for maths and + 3.1 for writing.

Therefore the school did not achieve the floor standards for attainment (set at 65% but did for progress)

Our year six leavers went on to take up places at Sarum Academy, St Edmunds, St Josephs, Wyvern, Trafalgar and South Wilts.

The Pupil Premium Grant Allocation of £47,745 in total was spent on the following:- Parent Support Advisor - £5,200 / Rapid Maths - £4,238 / Residential Trip - £700 / TA support time - £35,607 and 1:1 teacher time - £2,000

Our PE & Sport Grant of £14,229 was spent on extra swimming lessons for Yr. 4/5, Gymnastics equipment, a new PE scheme of work, maintaining the "Change for Life Club" for EYFS and Yr. 1 and to fund an Olympic/Fitness, "Health and Well-being Day" for every child in the school.

During the year the school has benefitted from regular visits and meetings with our School Improvement Advisor (Jim Smith) and a visit and regular contact with the HMI Inspector (Catherine Leahy). Both of whom have said our school is a lovely place, our children are happy, safe and want to learn and the majority exhibit good behaviour and make good choices, our staff work incredibly hard to make sure of this. Jim Smith and Catherine Leahy say we are making very good progress towards being judged "Good" at our next OFSTED inspection. This will most likely be in the summer. Governors and staff have attended seven seminars run by Wiltshire Improving Schools Partnership which helped us to review and tighten up our School Improvement Action Plan.

There have been a number of staff changes over the year, during the Spring term Mrs Helen Waters our Admin Officer and Premises Manager was signed off work due to ill health and continues to be on long term sick leave. Mrs Mel Munt has been appointed as Admin Assistant to cover Helen's work in the office, a job she is doing very well and Mrs Wendy Davidson has ably taken on the extra Premises responsibilities.

In May, Julie Pudrowski (Parent Support Advisor) resigned and in June, three members of staff, teachers Mrs Jodie Waters and Miss Kat Smith and TA Mrs Bara Joint returned to work following their maternity leave. At the end of the year TA Jane Wilson left us to start a PGCE course to train as a teacher, TA Vanessa Lee left us to train as a Speech Therapist, Mrs Penny Larcombe retired from her role as Finance Officer and Mrs Avril Thornton was appointed to the role. She is also our new Clerk to Governors following the resignation of Mrs Charlie Boardman due to ill health. Mrs Michelle Williams left as a full time teacher but is teaching one day a week to cover PPA/SLT time, Mrs Lucy Godfrey was appointed as a TA but over the summer break, we said goodbye to TA's Mrs Bara Joint and Miss Zoe Huckerby who resigned for personal reasons.

We increased the size of our Governing Body from 12 to 14 and welcomed Parent Governors, Peter Habert, Lloyd Turner and Richard Fowle and Co-opted governors, parent Katie Hill and village resident and school volunteer David Mills. One of our long serving Governors, Pat Lush, resigned over the summer break. She had been a governor for more than 15 years and worked hard for our school during that time.

Our PTA has continued their fantastic work raising more funds for our school with, among other things, Discos, Christmas and Summer Fayres, Jumble sales and selling drinks on Sports Day and at Nativity performances.

We enjoy the great links we have with Stratford-sub-Castle village and the wider community and value the strong relationship we have with the church.

Our school thrives because of the "Stratford Team", children, parents and carers, staff governors and volunteers. We know what a special place this is, we see the hard work it takes to make sure we maintain its' welcoming, inclusive and diverse nature. My thanks go to everyone who have been and are part of this amazing team.

Are there any questions?

Miss Angela Britten (Chair of Governors)