

Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC Primary School

Governors Annual Report to Parents

Monday 15th October 2018

Hello and welcome, thank you all for coming here tonight. This is the Governors Annual Report for 2017/18.

Our school has continued to be the secure, safe and happy place that allows all our children to grow and enjoy their learning. They are confident and well-rounded individuals who thrive in our accessible and inclusive space.

The state of school funding made the year particularly hard. We strove to keep our spending down and save money. Mrs Bridson and Mrs Watkins took on more teaching and more duties at lunchtime, we cut down on non-essential training, rolled the children's books over, changed to emails for school newsletters and kept purchases down to a minimum. Staff and Governors worked hard to get the school through the year with as low a deficit as possible while continuing to keep our school the amazing place it is. The deficit was set at £85,000 and currently stands at £60,000. Without the dedication of all the staff and the sacrifices they made, our school would have struggled to get through the year.

Pupil numbers increased slightly, we started the year with 148 pupils on role and ended the year with 150.

During the year, the number of children with varying forms of Special Educational Need rose from 21% (31 children) to 25% (38 children). The number of pupils entitled to Free School Meals stayed fairly constant throughout the year rising from 12 (8%) to 13 (8.7%) children.

Attendance continues to stay at a very good level, a fairly constant 97% throughout the year. 25 pupils achieved 100% attendance and were awarded with an appropriate book in acknowledgment of this. 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, recognition for full week attendance (name in the Happy Book) and lots of individual encouragement.

Behaviour continues to be very good. Staff continue to use Restorative Justice Strategies which have a positive impact in helping pupils to sort out their differences.

After school clubs including Sub Club, STEM Club, Code Club, Construction Club, Art Clubs, Mini-marathon, Athletics, Move and Groove, Summer and Winter Games were run, free of charge, each term, thanks to the willingness of the staff to give of their time. Choir took place during lunchtime thanks to the tireless work of Mrs Aylett.

Our children in EYFS have again made good progress, building on their confidence and "learning power" during the year. The percentage of children achieving a Good Level of Development was 76%. This compares favourably to the National figure of 71%

Year One Phonics screening results were lower than last year at 75% reported data. This is below the national figure of 81% but this year two children in this cohort had significant Special Education needs compared to zero last year.

A small number of pupils were involved in the **Year 2 phonics** retesting (3). The cumulative results read at 95% achieving the expected standard for phonics in either Y1 or Y2. This puts our results higher than the national average of 91%.

Key Stage One outcomes were extremely pleasing and show many improvements on last year. Reading was in line with the national average, Maths was better and writing while still below the national average has improved on last year.

Reading = Expected Standard 76% reported in 2018. Greater Depth 47% up from 39% last year.

Writing = Expected Standard 62% reported in 2018. Greater Depth 23% both an improvement from last year.

Maths = Expected Standard 81% reported in 2018. Greater Depth 47% again, both an improvement from last year

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in all three subjects is above the National average at 67% compared to the NA of 64%. Greater Depth in all three subjects went up to 24%.

Key Stage Two outcomes were on a par with last year.

Reading (test) = 81% achieved the expected standard and 23% higher scaled scores, both up on last year.

Writing (teacher assessment) = 73% achieved the expected standard and 19% at greater depth, expected was just below the national average but greater depth a 12% improvement.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (test) = 77% achieved the expected standard and 23% higher scaled scores these are in line with the national average.

Maths (test) = 69% achieved the expected standard and 31% higher scaled scores, expected slightly lower than last year, higher scaled up a 17% improvement.

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in all three subjects (58%) fell below the National benchmark of 61% but in a cohort with 35% SEND including 2 Educational Health Care Plan and 1 My Support Plan only 3 pupils did not score expected or better in any subject.

Our year six leavers went on to take up places at Sarum Academy, St Edmunds, St Josephs, Wyvern, Trafalgar, Mark Way, South Wilts and Bishop Wordsworth's.

The Pupil Premium Grant Allocation was spent on a variety of interventions including Year 6 transition, Boosters and 1 to 1 tuition. You can access a detailed breakdown on the school website. A link to the Pupil Premium Strategy to the will be added to this report when it is published.

Our PE & Sport Grant of £37,999, including a roll over from the previous financial year, was spent on replacing the track and associated play equipment. This has already had a positive effect with all children accessing the space and most taking part in the "Daily Mile"

GDPR was implemented and training for office and teaching staff took place. Letters went out to parents explaining the implications of GDPR.

Two members of staff left us last year. Mrs Godfrey a TA who left for a job that was more suited to her personal circumstances and Grace Griffiths also a TA but known as one of the faces of Early Birds and Night Owls. She is pursuing new avenues in her career. By the end of the year Governors had appointed five new members of staff, TA's Miss Paula Barnes, Miss Jayne Ellis, and Mrs Lisa Bell plus Miss Elizabeth Curzon our new year 1/2 teacher and Mrs Hannah Cook our new year 4/5 teacher.

There have been changes to the Governing body, the Rev. Sarah Wood-Roe joined us as a Foundation Governor and Mr Gareth Sullivan as a Parent Governor. The Governing body remains one Co-Opted Governor short.

FOSS has continued to work hard to raise funds for our school. The regular dates were still there, Bingo nights, Discos, Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fayre, Jumble sales, Friday after school ice creams and drinks and snacks on Sports Day and at Nativity performances. New attractions have

been an adult disco and arranging for us to sponsor Miss Robinson on her London Marathon run. The money raised from all these activities made a significant contribution to the cost of replacing the track and play equipment. Thank you FOSS for your continuing support.

Over the year the great links we have with Stratford-sub-Castle village and the wider community are as strong as ever and the valued relationship we have with the church continues to support and enhance us. The prayer tent visited school again this year, provoking a lot of deep thought and discussion. Some of our families took part in the “Defibrillator for the village” walk and our children had their works of art displayed in Salisbury Museum as part of the display about the archaeological dig in the village.

On behalf of the Governors I would like to thank Mrs Bridson, Mrs Watkins, our staff governor Miss Crook and all our teachers, teaching assistants and support staff for their dedication and hard work. We appreciate the extra hours everyone put in and the sacrifices they made.

Yet again our “Stratford Team”, children, parents and carers, staff, governors and volunteers have continued in their help and commitment to keep this great school of ours such a wonderful place.

Are there any questions?

Angela Britten (Chair of Governors)