Governors Core Function / Impact Statement

At Frodsham Church of England Primary School the Headteacher and the Governing Board work closely to deliver our unified shared vision of **As God's family we love, learn and play together.**

The role of the school governor centres on the following three core functions

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, Christian ethos/values and strategic direction;
- 2. Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Although not directly involved in the day-to-day running of the school, governors along with the Head Teacher, are ultimately responsible for ensuring the delivery of the highest standard of education for **ALL** pupils in our care.

The governing board are constantly striving to improve and develop the school. The school was last inspected by Ofsted in 2007 when the school was graded as Outstanding. Whilst the school has not been officially inspected since, interim inspections and reviews by the local authority, have taken place during this time which have confirmed that the school has maintained consistently high standards in academic achievement and pupil outcomes. The school also employs the services of school improvement partner to review and evaluate the schools' performance on a regular basis, the results of which are fedback to governors and help inform School Development Planning.

Governors continually evaluate the role they have played within the life of the school and have committed to publish all relevant information to interested parties. The following report forms part of that evaluation and publication process.

GOVERNOR CORE	KEY TOPICS AND	IMPACT OF GOVERNOR INVOLVEMENT –
FUNCTION	GOVERNOR ACTIVITIES	WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS IT MADE?
Setting the vision and strategic direction of the school	School vision, aims and Christian values.	School vision, aims and Christian values statements have been created and embedded across the school. Strong links coexist between the school, community, local CoE/parish church and the Diocese. Two members of the governing body are foundation governors from the local parish church. Until his recent retirement, the local vicar was a long term governor and actively involved in the life of the school including leading weekly worship, attending residentials & directing school productions. Chair of Governors and Headteacher attend briefings at the Diocese. The schools most recent Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) in 2017 was graded outstanding.

School Development Planning	Governors work collaboratively with the head teacher and senior management in the writing and monitoring the School Improvement/ Development Plan (SDP). The SDP is set out with clear measurable aims (including specific leadership actions for governors), key tasks which must be completed in order to achieve those objectives and success criteria in order to evaluate results.
	The SDP is monitored and reviewed termly, with an evaluation overview being completed and presented termly to governors for their consideration.
	The Full Governing board meet termly and specific areas of strategic responsibility are delegated to sub committees focusing in more detail on Curriculum, Finance & Staffing and Estates who each meet termly. Robust questioning (as evidenced in the FGB and committees minutes; minutes are available upon request) and analysing of data trends ensures action plans are focused on the key result areas.
Governing Board powers and statutory responsibilities.	All governors are aware of their statutory responsibilities, through LA school bulletins and undertake training sessions courtesy of the Diocese and the Local Authority Governance Team (Edsential) including new governor induction training. Governors also sign and pledge to follow the Governor Code of conduct each year.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding is a key priority and is reviewed at every meeting be it committee or full governing board meeting. There is a designated safeguarding governor who meets with the head to review procedures and complete the safeguarding audit.
Setting the Performance Management Targets	Headteacher's targets are set on an annual basis and are reviewed regularly by governors with input from an independent schools' advisor. Quality assurance arrangements are in place to ensure performance management targets are linked with those for school improvement, school self-evaluation and the school development plan. All staff performance

		and development is reviewed by the Finance and Staffing committee. Governors
		have supported and encouraged CPD and training for middle and senior leaders.
	Appointing and managing staff.	A select number of governors have completed safer recruitment training to ensure appointments are made as per LA and statutory guidelines.
		Governors participate in the selection of all teaching staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff who share the schools mission statement and Christian ethos are appointed.
		Governors have actively supported the school when key members of support staff have been absent and with performance/ recruitment issues
	Staff wellbeing	Governors are keen to ensure that all staff (including the SLT) are recognised and feel supported which includes monitoring workload, staff morale/feedback, performance and attendance, home/life balance. Staff are given time ½ day off at xmas time. Two governors with HR expertise have taken on responsibility to focus on this and engage with staff to ensure positive wellbeing.
	Agreeing policies and procedures	Governors undertake a comprehensive review of policies and procedures, delegated to the relevant committee and/or FGB. Specific attention has been paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list.
Holding the Headteacher to account for the schools educational performance	Monitoring and evaluation of pupil outcomes through data / reports and the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum.	Data reports -Inspection Data Summary Report (IDSR) and ASP (Analyse School Performance) are shared with all governors and reviewed in-depth by the curriculum and standards committee. This regular and detailed analysis by governors has enabled governors with the schools leadership team to identify school strengths / weaknesses and where appropriate to actively challenge the Headteacher to ensure robust systems are in place to

	address any areas requiring improvement. Particular scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups and overcoming barriers/diminishing the difference to learning for vulnerable groups (SEND, pupil premium) including the effective use of the Pupil Premium Funding. There is a designated governor for SEND and Pupil Premium.
	Pupil outcomes – the school performs consistently above LA and national results. Whilst there are some small variations each year, overtime the 3-year average is above LA and national average in attainment and progress scores in reading, writing and maths for both the expected and higher standards. In 2018-19, attainment was above average in nearly all areas and stages including early years, phonics, KS1 and KS2 (with the exception of maths at expected standard in KS1 and writing at a higher standard in KS1 and KS2). In particular, Y1 phonics and boys attainment improved in 2018-19 which had been an areas of focus. Progress in reading, writing and maths at KS2 is average. The school is also one of the best performing schools in the FAVSP/local cluster of primaries.
	Pupil attendance is excellent with absence rates below national average (in lowest 10%) in 2017-18 and 2016-17. Pupil premium attendance has improved.
Visits to the school to monitor attainment and the implementation of improvement strategies e.g learning walks and book scrutinies.	Governors have received training in Safeguarding (Basic awareness and Prevent), Monitoring and Evaluation, Understanding School Data including Analyse school performance (ASP) and IDSR which is triangulated against internal data/analysis provided by the head.
	Governors visit to the school are encouraged and form part of their termly monitoring program. The Headteacher has an open door policy for governor visits however a date is usually agreed in advance. Governors consider visits as a valuable opportunity to be able to work closely with staff members, track pupil

		progress and seek pupils' feedback on school improvement strategies. Core subjects and year groups have been assigned a link governor. Visits take place throughout the academic year where governors meet with the relevant class teacher/subject lead which improves accountability and knowledge. Calling ourselves to account - all Governor visits are documented in the signing in book and reports of each visit are held in school governor file. The feedback and level of impact from Governors visits are assessed at Full Governing Board meetings. Governors also attend sporting events, school visits and residentials to gain an insight into enrichment and cross curricular activities provided at the School. Governors take all feedback seriously and regularly monitor pupil, staff and parental feedback provided via pupil voice, questionnaires and parental / staff engagement at key events such as parents' evenings. Overall feedback has been very positive in recent years.
Ensuring a good level of financial health and resource management to support best educational outcomes for pupils.	Budget setting that is balanced and demonstrates best value and impact of expenditure	The governing board, consider and approve the proposed budgets for the forthcoming financial year and scrutinise the in-year performance of the school on a termly basis, delegated to the finance & staffing committee. The committee together with the governing board ensure financial probity via fiscal audits, reviewing external suppliers/contracts/buy back services, manual of internal financial procedures, completing the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) including benchmarking expenditure with comparable schools. The finance and staffing committee also scrutinise the following on behalf of the full governing board: • Staffing changes and costings • Income generation – grants, lettings • Pupil Premium Expenditure • PE/Sport Funding Expenditure – link governor assigned

Governing Reard	Governor Development /	 Medium & Long Term Financial Projections. Unofficial school fund Governors oversee the deployment of resources to ensure best value for money / maximum impact derived – examples in 2018-19. Support for vulnerable children e.g. ELSA programme and resources. Training courses and cost of supply cover for staff CPD and middle leader training. Improving ICT resources/learning environment – new server and classroom smartboards. Outdoors - new pond area. Secured grant income to refurbish the mobile classrooms where pre-school and before/after clubs are based.
Governing Board Development	Governor Development / Action Plan	The Governance Development Plan forms part of the schools overall SDP. One of the main objectives in preparing the development plan was to align the governors' focus on its three core strategies with the requirements of the school improvement plan, training requirements and any requirements arising from the latest Ofsted and SIAMS inspections. The governing body and senior management team are constantly striving to improve and develop the school, therefore the development plan is reviewed on a termly basis by the Full Governing Board to assess the impact of strategies against key result areas. There have been at least three sub- committee and three Full Governing Board meetings per term during the academic year. The staffing committee meet more regularly depending on requirements.
	Governor Attendance	Governor attendance throughout the year has been high, with any absences having been fully explained, accepted and

	approved by the governing board. This is published on the school website.
	There are no causes for concern at the level of commitment shown by any member of the governing board.
	ALL governors are fully committed to the school and its vision for its pupils.

If you wish to contact the governing board regarding any aspect of this impact statement please direct all correspondence via admin@frodsham.cheshire.sch.uk

Last Updated December 2019