

HUNTON AND ARRATHORNE C.P. SCHOOL

The Governance Annual Statement

In January 2014 the Department for Education (DfE) published departmental advice in relation to the School Procedures regulations (2013). A number of additional recommendations, not mentioned in the Procedures regulations, were made in the advice document, including reference to the **publication of an annual governance statement**.

10. It is also good practice for the Board to publish an annual governance statement (as Academy Trusts are required to do through the Accounts Direction) to explain how it has fulfilled its responsibilities - particularly in relation to its core functions, including:

- The governance arrangements that are in place, including the remit of any committees*
- The attendance record of individual governors at board and committee meetings*
- An assessment of the effectiveness and impact of the board and any committees with details of any particular challenges that have arisen*

Whilst accepting the publication of a governance statement is not mandatory, NYCC strongly recommends that it is good practice and an effective way for governors to demonstrate that their accountability to parents, at least annually.

We suggest that governors agree a statement – an example is below – and publish this on their website, perhaps at the end of the summer term each year.

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Hunton and
Arrathorne C.P School
November 2015**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Hunton and Arrathorne C.P. School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the Headteacher 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

Governance arrangements

The governing Body of Hunton and Arrathorne C.P. School was reconstituted in 2014 and is now made up of:

3 Parent Governors;
1 Local Authority Governor;
One Staff Governor;
Headteacher;
4 Co-opted Governors.

The range of skills brought to the Governing Body which contribute to effective governance and the success of the school are as follows:

- A willingness to attend meetings on a regular basis;
- The skill to interpret and understand pupil performance data;
- Leadership experience in education, governance or another area;
- School Financial management;
- Personnel management;
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities;
- Buildings and Maintenance;
- Health and Safety;
- Curriculum interests.

The governing body has programme of meetings throughout the school year that focuses on specific areas of governance. In 2014/15 there were 4 Governing Body meetings and 6 Committee meetings. For 2015/16 the Governing Body will operate through Governing Body meetings only and 8 meetings are planned.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body, of governors attendance at meetings. Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made and

all meetings in 2014/15 met the criteria.

The work we have done on our committees and in the governing body meetings.

- *Considered the reports of the Headteacher dealing primarily with pupil performance data and strategic issues facing the school;*
- *Interrogated and challenged through questions the data to see what, if anything, the school can do better for our pupils;*
- *Considered the staffing required to run the school effectively;*
- *Considered the financial management of the school including the Start Budget, monthly budget monitoring reports and completed the Schools Financial Value Statement;*
- *Ensured that the physical fabric of the school is well maintained by the prudent use of the Capital and Revenue resources available to the school;*
- *Considered strategic issues which will affect the school in the future e.g. the school is now a member of the Swaledale Alliance;*
- *Ensured that the school's policies are upto date by undertaking regular reviews of policies;*
- *Ensured that Health and Safety at the school is of the highest order by considering the reports of the LA Health and Safety Adviser and by undertaking inspections of the school premises;*

All non- confidential minutes of the Governing Body are available for inspection on the School's website.

Strategic Planning for the future

Developing Leadership and Management is one of our key priorities this year and has a separate action plan, part of which is detailed in a separate action plan devised by the governors.

Governor links to school has also been revised and will be tracked in 2015-16.

How to contact your governing body

Information about the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website

The Hunton and Arrathorne C.P. School Governing Body – membership

Governor	Category	Term of office expires
D.G. Lawrenson	Co-opted	03.12.18
M.K. Gibson	Co-opted	03.12.18
Lady S. McAndrew	Co-opted	03.12.18
P. Barber	Co-opted	01.07.19
Mrs R. Loadman	Parent	01.11.16
Mrs K. Yarker	Parent	30.09.19
N. Haresign	Parent	25.09.17
Mrs J. Sargent	Local Authority	14.03.17

Mrs J. Grainger	Headteacher	N/A
Mrs M. Saunders	Staff	13.01.18
The Hunton and Arrathorne C.P. School Governors' Attendance record for 2014 – 2015 for Governing Body meetings was 85%		