



## Pewsey Vale School Annual Governance Statement 2017/18

### INTRODUCTION

The Governors of Pewsey Vale School have produced an annual statement for parents and all other stakeholders connected to our school. To do so is considered to be good practice and provides some insight into the role of the Governing Body.

### THE FULL GOVERNING BODY AND ITS COMMITTEES

The Governing Body takes full responsibility for the conduct of the school, and for promoting high educational standards. The Governing Body has legal ownership of the school site and acts as an employer of staff. It delegates to the Head and staff the responsibility for running the school in line with the agreed vision, aims, ethos and strategic direction, and is not normally involved in decisions about the day-to-day running of the school.

We the Governors are committed to making sure Pewsey Vale School provides the very best standard of education for all of its pupils. We aim to ensure all children fulfil and exceed their potential. We expect the highest behaviour and attendance standards.

The Governing Body meets every term (six times a year).

The Governing Body is made up mostly of people independent of the school, but it also includes the Head (who is an “ex officio” Governor), parent Governors and a staff Governor. All Governors are volunteers, with the exception of the Head and any staff Governors, and all dedicate their time and efforts into providing a thriving school for your children.

Should you have any questions about the role of the Governing Body please do not hesitate to contact our Clerk, Sarah Hunt, on [shu@pewsey-vale.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:shu@pewsey-vale.wilts.sch.uk)

### THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF THE GOVERNING BODY AND ITS COMMITTEES

The role of the Governing Body is:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the delivery, in line with the school’s ethos, of the agreed strategy to achieve the vision
- Promoting the personal development and wellbeing of students and staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well-spent.



The Governing Body has three committees to which some of its functions are delegated: the Strategic Group, Personnel & Standards and Finance & Facilities. These committees also meet every term (six times a year), prior to each Full Governing Body Meeting. The minutes from the three Committees are documented and discussed at the Full Governing Body meetings.

The Strategic Group is comprised of the Chairs of the other two committees, the Chair of Governors, the Vice Chair of Governors, and the Head Teacher and meets prior to the Full Governing Body meetings. The group is focused on school development and strategic direction.

The Personnel & Standards Committee oversees the curriculum and its provision in the school. It also monitors personnel matters. One of its tasks is to ensure consistent high quality teaching throughout the school, allowing pupils to make excellent progress during their time here.

Detailed financial monitoring and challenge takes place in the Finance and Facilities Committee. It reports to the Governing Body on the financial performance of the school, recommends school budgets, and ensures the school's finances are regularly monitored and that money is spent sensibly and in a way that provides good value.

The performance of the Head Teacher is scrutinised by a panel of three members of the Governing Body in conjunction with our School Improvement Partner. Educational performance and personal development targets are set for the Head to help drive the process of school improvement. Regular assessments of the quality of teaching are undertaken by the Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team.

At regular intervals the Head Teacher or members of the Senior Leadership Team present the Governing Body and Committees with detailed reports, which include information on attendance, behaviour, pupil progress and attainment data, and significant news.

We link individual Governors to subjects and Governors are encouraged to visit the school regularly to gain wider knowledge of how the curriculum is taught. Individual Governors also have specific responsibilities for: Special Educational Needs, Pupil Premium, Safeguarding and Health & Safety. Governors undertake a wide range of training to ensure they are kept up-to-date with changes in education and we have carried out a skills audit within the Governing Body to make sure the knowledge and professional background of our members is being used effectively.



For further details on the governing body and its members please visit the welcome section of the school website at [www.pewsey-vale.org](http://www.pewsey-vale.org) . I am also very happy to discuss the role of the Governing Body further with you.

I look forward to meeting you at future school events.

Yours sincerely

Tracy Richards

Chair of the Governing Body