



Annual Governance Statement

Local Governing Body of Staples Road Primary School

September 2020 – July 2021



In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Staples Road Primary 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.

Our vision at Staples Road Primary School is to create a learning environment where **we challenge ourselves and support each other to be the best that we can be**. We aim to put our school motto: **‘strive, respect, succeed’**, into action on a daily basis.

Governance arrangements	<p>The Local Governing Body (LGB) of Staples Road Primary School was re-constituted in 2018 following the conversion to academy status in July 2018 joining the Epping Forest Schools Partnership Trust (EFSPT). The EFSPT is made up of 16 schools in the local area and more information about the Trust can be found on their website www.efspt.org</p> <p>The LGB is made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 3 elected Parent Governors and 6 Trust Governors. Trust governors are recommended to EFSPT by the LGB and are people who, in the opinion of the LGB, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the School.</p> <p>The LGB meets twice each term, monitoring the finance, premises, health & safety, personnel matters and safeguarding. The LGB also focuses on the teaching and learning identified in the School Development Plan (SDP) and governors are assigned responsibility for a priority. In addition the Pay Committee meets in the autumn term and other statutory committees are convened as and when required.</p>
Attendance record of governors	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). Despite the continuing challenges of the pandemic, including further ‘lockdowns’, regular virtual LGB meetings were held via Teams, throughout the academic year.</p>
The work that we have done	<p>At the end of each academic year the Leadership team and governors usually review the results from that year. However, due to the pandemic, the DfE took the decision that no formal tests would be carried out in this academic year. Instead, teacher assessments were carried out for children in Year 2 and Year 6 and the results were shared with Governors. These will be used to set expected levels of progress and attainment for the forthcoming year.</p> <p>The Leadership team in consultation with the staff set the School Development Plan (SDP) for the forthcoming year. This year it was decided</p>



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that the priorities would remain the same and monitoring took place both virtually and in person whenever possible. In addition, regular contact with the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher was maintained throughout this period.

<https://www.staplesroad.essex.sch.uk/key-stage-sats-results/>

The SDP priorities for 2020-21 were:

- I. Leadership ensures that all aspects of teaching, learning and assessment are highly effective
- II. Teachers and children demonstrate deeper knowledge, understanding and skills across the curriculum
- III. Children, staff and families make healthy choices for their physical and mental well-being
- IV. Attainment of all groups is in line with or exceeds that of the same groups nationally

A summary of the action can be found on the school website.

<https://www.staplesroad.essex.sch.uk/school-development-priorities/>

Safeguarding continued to be a priority and Mr Mikdadi was the Safeguarding Governor. Termly audits of the procedures and child protection records were carried out and all was found to be in order.

The SEND report and Inclusion policy was published following consultation with all stakeholders and SEND was identified as a priority in the SDP.

Pupil attendance continued to be good when the children were able to return to school. The School also delivered an excellent online provision for the children to continue their learning from home when required, which was also well attended.

The LGB regularly monitored the budget and made sure that the teaching and learning continued to be a priority.

Governors continued to review and agree school policies, many of which are now devolved from the Trust.

The Headteacher announced her retirement and a new Headteacher was appointed by the LGB to start in September 2021.

Minutes of the Local Governing Body are public documents – you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.



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Communication with stakeholders	<p>The LGB conducts an annual survey of parents and the results can be found on the school website. The Headteacher and governors discuss the feedback and look at what can be done to make improvements where possible and this also helps inform the priorities for the SDP the following year.</p> <p>https://www.staplesroad.essex.sch.uk/parentcarer-survey/</p> <p>Due to Covid-19 restrictions, governors were unable to make themselves available in person for stakeholders. However, the Chair continued to issue newsletters to keep parents up-to-date with what was happening in the school.</p>
Future plans for the governors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The LGB will continue to support the new Headteacher and all the staff in order to help the school overcome any challenges brought about by the pandemic, enabling them to deliver a high standard of teaching and learning➤ The LGB will be working to create a development plan for Governors which will help deliver the School's vision➤ To continue as a good school whilst ensuring the mental well-being of staff and children and all those associated with the school remains a priority.
How you can contact the governing body	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr Mikdadi, via the school office or email: Governors@srps.efspt.org</p> <p>You can see the full list of governors, their attendance at meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.</p> <p>https://www.staplesroad.essex.sch.uk/governors/</p>