

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of The Tynings Primary School**  
July 2016

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of The Tynings Primary School Governing Body are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos 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.**

**Governance arrangements**

The Governing Body of The Tynings Primary School was re-constituted in September 2013 and comprises 13 members. The Governing Body is made up of: -

- 2 staff governors (including the Head teacher)
- 2 elected Parent Governors
- 1 Local Authority Governor
- 8 Co-opted governors.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body two of the Co-opted governors are parents, one is a non-teaching staff member and three are members of the local community. At present we have 2 Co-opted Governor vacancies.

The full Governing Body meets once each term, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail.

	<p>At The Tynings Primary we have a Finance and Infrastructure Committee, which focuses on finance, premises and health and safety; a Curriculum Committee, which focuses on the curriculum, teaching and learning, inclusion of vulnerable groups and children’s behaviour; a Staffing Committee which focusses on staffing and a Pay Committee which deals with performance related pay issues. We also have working parties that meet if required.</p> <p>See the main website for a list of Governors.</p>
<p><b>Attendance record of governors</b></p>	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See Page 4 for details of individual governors’ attendance at meetings.</p>
<p><b>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</b></p>	<p>The Governing Body has had a very busy year, helping the school to focus on the elements highlighted by our Ofsted inspection of 2015. The main focus has been the development of middle leaders, to which end we have joined with staff meetings once a term, working with them in ‘Curriculum Teams’, focussing on subjects within the curriculum. This enabled us to forge much closer relationships with school staff than we had previously been able to enjoy.</p> <p>One of the main challenges facing the school throughout the year has been the change in the statutory assessment system, requiring the school to rethink how they track progress and coming to terms with the new expectations for both KS1 and KS2.</p> <p>The Curriculum Committee spent time understanding the new assessment system and challenging the school where progress appeared to be slow. It is always important that we ensure that the progress of all pupils is steady, on a trajectory to achieve the end of year</p>

targets. This has proved more difficult with the new assessment system, as progress is not linear, as it used to be, but instead happens as children embed knowledge. We helped the DHT to refine the presentation of the data in order to make it as useful as possible for us.

We are also concerned about our “vulnerable groups” of children and focus on how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes. Our Chair of Governors sits on a Pupil Premium Working Party, made up of staff and a Governor, in order to have a good understanding of the spending of this money and its impact on the children for whom it is provided.

Governors are also particularly concerned about safeguarding and we have a Nominated Governor for Safeguarding. (S)he sits on the Safeguarding Working Party, made up of staff and Governor, which ensures that we have a clear understanding of what is being done. This Governor then reports back to all Governors.

The Finance and Infrastructure Committee receives termly budget updates and reports on the maintenance and development of the school premises, and ensures that money is being spent wisely. Health and Safety is monitored by a named Governor and is informed by the School Business Manager of the termly checks of the premises.

Early in the summer term, the F & I Committee approved the 2016/17 budget plan for the school: this budget allows for an extra teacher and TA for the new year 5 class next year.

One of the roles of the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have considered a number of key policies, including Pay and Conditions, Behaviour, Health and Safety and Complaints. Additionally, in light of the events towards the end of

	<p>the year, we undertook a thorough review of all our policies relating to Safeguarding.</p> <p>The end of the year was clearly clouded by events which took place. The Governing body worked very closely with the school and the local authority in order to lessen the impact of the community.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents –you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	The Governing Body is looking forward to working closely with the staff to ensure that teaching and learning is at the highest standard possible and that the school is working towards an outstanding Ofsted when the school is next inspected.
<b>How you can contact the governing body</b>	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors and more information about what we do, on the Governors’ page of the school website.

### The Tynings Primary School Governors' Attendance Record for 2015-6

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Full Governing Body</b>	<b>F &amp; I Committee</b>	<b>Curriculum Committee</b>	<b>Staffing Committee</b>	<b>Pay Committee</b>
Mrs Pauline Dixon	70%	N/A	80%	N/A	N/A
Mr Jim Lott	100%	80%	N/A	100%	100%
Mr Ashley Yates	80%	20%	40%	100%	N/A
Mr John Ridler	100%	80%	N/A	100%	N/A
Mrs Kitty Thomas	100%	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A
Mrs Sarah Warren	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%
Mr Simon Jones	100%	N/A	100%	N/A	100%
Mrs Janet Poole	90%	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A
Mrs Jane McNeill	100%	80%	N/A	100%	N/A
Mrs Helen Wild	60%	100%	N/A	100%	N/A
Mr Mark Almond	100%	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A
Vacancy*					
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\*Please note, if you would be interested in finding out more information about these vacancies, please contact Sarah Warren, Chair of Governors, through the school.