

A key role of Moorfield's school governors is to focus on ensuring that our pupils make appropriate progress and secure the best possible outcomes. This year we supported the school community in developing our pupils' academic outcomes, their characters and life skills in order to help them grow into responsible, intelligent individuals. They should be pupils who possess the moral understanding, virtues and key skills needed to grow into good citizens. The underpinning ethos of Moorfield has continued to develop during the challenges that 2020 has provided.

The Governing Body understand that pupils must be supported by a well led, enthusiastic, professional, competent and motivated staff. Working together, alongside parents and carers, within a safe, supportive and stimulating environment our children are allowed to flourish. We continue to support the school unequivocally in these efforts.

### Moorfield Governing Body Sept 2020 Annual Governance Statement (2019-2020).

This annual statement from Governors to parents is organised around the three core objectives of the Governing Body, these being the main focus of the Governing Body.

#### 1. Setting the strategic direction of the school.

#### 2. Holding the school to account.

#### 3. Ensuring the financial wellbeing of the school.

This year has seen the continuation of the use of two key working groups - the Business Management Working Group and the Curriculum Working Group. These governor teams work closely with the Senior Leadership Team, the Head teacher and subject lead teachers, to monitor the priorities of the School Improvement Program. 2019-20 has been a particularly challenging year, with changes to senior leadership staffing, absence through illness and the raft of challenges brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic. This included school closures, keyworker taught provision, home learning and school re-opening. The pandemic and its impacts caused a refocussing towards new targets and priorities during the year. Some progress was made towards initial pre-Covid development plans but some areas of development will need to continue into 2020-21 and beyond.

The key achievements are summarised below:

#### Strategic Direction

The governors continued to support the development of the school's ethos 'Learning to flourish'. This continues to be embedded within the school. We visited school for a wide range of reasons, spending time in class, at school events or with individual staff members. This was limited somewhat during the lockdown period but we maintained

virtual links with school in order to keep informed as to how the provision for key worker and priority children was developed and how remote learning was implemented.

We continue to work with the SLT to examine how residential trips will return to the curriculum when safe to do so. Where possible we have consulted parents and listened to views. This will be a priority over the next twelve months as we recover from the pandemic period.

### Holding the School to Account

We continue to review and update school policies to ensure the school remains compliant with statutory requirements. We have discussed new priorities brought up by the Coronavirus pandemic, agreeing risk assessments, working with local authority figures, attending briefings and offering support to staff. We provided challenge to the Head teacher/SMT; regularly reviewing assessment data, the school development plan and the progress made by all children. As a body we approved a range of spending on both staff CPD and purchases aimed at further improving the pupil experience at Moorfield. We worked alongside the HT, business manager, local authority and senior teachers to ensure appropriate succession planning and leadership models in light of the deputy headteacher's appointment to a headship at a local school.

The financial well-being of the school continues to be strong. We, alongside senior staff and business manager, ensure the finances of the school are regularly reviewed and challenged. We are confident that resources are effectively used and funding efficiently spent. We continued to monitor and review the way Pupil Premium money is spent; focusing on the needs of individual children. We agreed the continued update of school infrastructure such as existing IT hardware to ensure resources are current for pupil use.

### Health and Safety

The governing body is aware of and responded to advice and guidance offered at local and national levels with regards the Coronavirus pandemic. It worked alongside the senior leadership team to agree policy and practice relating to the school closure period and the subsequent reopening. Risk assessments were shared by the headteacher and agreed in line with expectations. We have ensured that safeguarding knowledge of the Governors is reviewed in accordance with legislative changes.

We have reviewed and updated other school risk assessments, to ensure hazards within the school are reduced as far as is reasonably practicable, and safe systems are in place to address and control those which cannot be eliminated.

The governing body would like to thank the whole school community for coming together so well during 2020. Particular thanks go to the headteacher, Mrs Medhurst and the staff

**for their dedication. This has enabled school to continue on track, remain safe and respond to the on-going challenges.**