

**Annual Governance Statement for the Board of Governors of Milldene  
Primary School  
September 2020**

The three core strategic functions of the Milldene Primary School Board of Governors 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 Board of Governors of Milldene Primary School is made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 3 elected Parent Governors, 1 Authority Governor and 5 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Board of Governors and are people who, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. We currently have 2 vacancies and will be looking to fill these in the autumn term.

Earlier this year we conducted a review of governors' meetings, the number we were having, attendance, and the impact they were having on the school; subsequently we restructured our meetings, to incorporate the finance committee and the curriculum committee into a full board meeting that meets once every half term. This allows our meetings to be more efficient, with less repetition in the minutes. It also allows staff the chance to give reports to the whole governing board rather than just a committee and overall meetings are more inclusive, giving all governors a chance to contribute equally.

We also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail, such as a committee that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.

See Page 4 for a list of Governors.

<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). Even during the Current COVID crisis we were able to hold virtual meetings online.</p>
<p><b>The work that we have done in our committees and in the Board of Governors</b></p>	<p>The Board of Governors has had another busy year focusing on continuing to improve and develop our monitoring role. We have very active and able governors and, despite a number of resignations this year, have recruited new governors so that we have a good range of skills on the Board.</p> <p>Governors regularly visit the school which provides an independent view and greater insight into how the school is functioning.</p> <p>Governors regularly attend training and we have training from the School’s staff.</p> <p><u>Curriculum, Standards and Community Links:</u> As governors we monitor the use of the Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding and their impact on children’s learning outcomes. We also monitor data of all pupils’ attainment and progress, so that we can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its ambitious targets for all pupils. This includes reports from independent sources. Safeguarding children is a major responsibility of the Board of Governors which we regularly monitor.</p> <p>This year we had an in depth look at safeguarding, bullying and the behaviour policy challenging the school to reflect critically on how these policies are embedded in the school’s practice. Governors play a critical role in monitoring safeguarding and special educational needs provision alongside holding the school to account for the pupil’s academic performance. The wellbeing of both the staff and the children is also a key consideration for all</p>

	<p>governors and this year has been a particular challenge, the Covid Crisis we are currently living through has seen an unprecedented amount of stress being put on both staff and families.</p> <p><u>Resources:</u> A key part of a governor’s role is to ensure the maintenance and development of the school premises, and works closely with the school’s site manager and Mr Bagley (Consortium Premises Manager).</p> <p>Early in the summer term, we approved the 2020/21 budget plan for the school: we are pleased to report that the school, by careful budgeting can continue to run 7 classes.</p> <p>You will be aware that all schools are finding balancing budgets difficult in the current climate of rising costs as the budget allocated to the school is not keeping pace with these increases. Mrs Locke and the staff do an excellent job of keeping costs down and finding very creative ways to improve the provision for pupils. We are grateful for the help of Mrs Marks (Consortium Finance Manager).</p> <p>The Governors are monitoring the key targets of school development plan and organising our monitoring around the targets set out in the plan.</p>
<p><b>Future plans for the governors</b></p>	<p>We still face the challenge of maintaining the swimming pool. Plus this year we are investing in a new roof for the school.</p> <p>Our major focus this year is implementing the new curriculum and meeting the challenges of the new Ofsted framework. Staff have been working hard on this and we are happy to support the purchase of Cornerstones to compliment the School’s existing curriculum.</p> <p>We are pleased to see the increased sporting opportunities available for pupils and the number of</p>

	sports teams that have sprung up. We hope to support further expansion and that the Sports Grant will continue to enable this to happen.
<b>How you can contact the Board of Governors</b>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office.</p> <p>You can see the full list of governors below.</p> <p>Governors attendance at meetings; minutes of Board of Governors meetings and more information about what we do is on the Governors page of the school website.</p>

### **Milldene Primary School Board of Governors**

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Term of office expiry date</b>
Nicola Cooke	Parent Governor	25/11/2022
Julia Griffiths	Co-Opted Governor	5/12/2020
Emma Harper	Co-Opted Governor	27/3/2021
Susan Locke (Head Teacher)	Staff Governor	Ex officio
Sian Longman	Co-Opted Governor	8/7/2023
Jackie Martin	Co- Opted Governor	17/03/2024
Vic Prior (Chair of Governors)	Authority Governor	20/7/2021
Susie Threadgold (Vice Chair)	Parent Governor	19/5/2023
Robyn Lang	Staff Governor	06/10/24
Stephanie Reid	Parent Governor	06/10/24