

The Bawburgh School Governor Impact Statement for 2019-20

Over the past year, the governors at The Bawburgh School have supported and challenged the School in various ways and have developed our own protocols, procedures and practices to further support the improvements in learning and teaching witnessed at the school over the past 12 months.

The start of the school year saw the election of a new parent governor to the board, in Paul Ashworth, who has since become a valued governor. The board approved the budget spending on new sheds, canopy sides in Flamingos, refurbishment of the toilets and adopted the National Governance Association model Code of Conduct 2019.

It was a very turbulent second half of the year with Covid-19 having a dramatic impact on the children, staff and the governing body. The Board supported and challenged the HT throughout the Summer term with the partial opening, for key worker and vulnerable children. The governors introduced Zoom meetings in March. This allowed continued communication with the HT throughout the lockdown and subsequent full reopening in September 2020.

Our Core Functions as a governing body continue to be:

1. Setting the strategic direction of the school
2. Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the children
3. Ensuring Financial resources are well managed
4. Ensuring all children and staff are Safeguarded at The Bawburgh School and that their wellbeing is our priority.

What we have done to support the core functions:

Continued to ensure that the governing body are sufficiently well trained, through LA training courses and online opportunities for those who cannot attend LA courses, this years training has been undertaken in the following areas:

- Introduction to Schools finance – May 2020
- GDPR Data protection – Jan 2020
- Safeguarding Children in Education – Sept 2019
- Pupil Premium – Nov 2019
- Workload and Wellbeing – Oct 2019
- Performance management – Sep 2019
- Governors: Behaviour and Exclusions – Oct 2019
- Behaviour and Exclusions - The Governors Role – Oct 2019

Governors ask robust questions of the Head and staff both in meetings and during monitoring visits and these are recorded and evidenced. We have set ambitious, challenging and realistic targets for pupil attainment, progress and quality teaching targets.

Governors have created a rigorous monitoring schedule with clearly defined tasks and roles, meaning governors are in school half termly monitoring SIDP actions and statutory functions.

Throughout the year the governing board conducted several monitoring visits. The areas included were H&S/premises, budget, communication, attendance, safeguarding, GDPR, parent governor election, SEND, Anti-fraud log, Pupil premium progress and monitoring of Maths. Unfortunately, the monitoring was cut short due to Covid-19 but the information the board received was that the school was continually working towards ensuring the school was safe, vulnerable children/families were high priority, communicating with parents and responding to the ever changing guidance from the government.

We have kept a tight control of the school budget, ensuring prudence whilst minimising the negative impact on resources for learning.

The Impact we have had:

The Governors have continued to follow the monitoring schedule which has been aligned to the SIDP, reporting on this has been high priority and an agenda item for all FGB meetings to report on progress.

Curriculum and Standards - Impact Statement – 2019-20

Leadership & Management

- Reviewed committee terms of reference
- Regular review of SIDP/SEF, with clear identification of progress against actions.
- Monitoring of curriculum development through review of subject leader reports and discussions with Headteacher.
- Monitoring of pupil progress and attainment. Questioning reports and agreeing future actions.
- Review and evaluation of strategies and interventions in place for SEND and Pupil Premium.
- Review of 2018-19 SATs results, Phonics screening and Good Level of Development in EYFS. Discussion and approval of predictions and aspirational targets for 2019-20.
- Approval of arrangements for on-line and home-learning due to Covid-19

Behaviour & Safety of Pupils

- Pupil attendance monitored
- Arrangements for home learning and on-line learning due to Covid-19

Quality of Teaching and Learning

- Observations of teaching and learning by senior leaders and external leaders reported as being consistently 'Good'. Teachers' subject knowledge confirmed to be accurate.
- NQT well-supported by school, and reported to have made strong progress.
- Maths monitoring revealed the positive impact of co-operative learning on pupil outcomes.

Achievement of Pupils

- Evidenced through Progress and Attainment Data and Pupil Premium outcomes.
- Data - noted to be positive.
- Pupils making expected progress from starting points.
- Quality of teaching and learning consistently 'Good'

Resources Committee Meeting – Impact Statement 2019-20

Leadership & Management

- Confirmation of healthy budget
- Agreement to review Asset Management processes
- Agreement to add areas to monitoring timetable – committee related
- Approval of BR3
- SLA contract review and approval to purchase
- Approval for infrastructure developments
- Contract changes to the cleaning and school
- Approval of changes to staffing structure

Behaviour & Safety of Pupils

- Health & Safety checks completed –issues identified and addressed.
- Mandatory staff training
- Asbestos themed audit reviews
- Appointment of a RSHE governor

Quality of Teaching

- The appointment of a teacher
- Approval for new teaching resources
- Benchmarking data

Achievement of Pupils

- Benchmarking data (Resources spend – justification of governor decision to invest in Accelerated Reader. Reading 100% last year).
- Pupil premium and sports premium monitoring visits

Impact measures on all the above are evident from the minutes of all the appropriate committees that focus on standards, attainment and progress.

What are we Planning Next?

- Further develop and support our Head and teachers so that they continue to provide outstanding teaching to our pupils.
- Further support staff to ensure those pupils who are not yet fluent with earlier material consolidate their understanding, through additional practice and support, before they move on.
- Ongoing redesign of our curriculum provision for all children
- Maintain consistency across the school following a number of changes over the last 3 years.
- Continue our Visible Learning Journey
- Succession Planning within the governing body
- Development of premises plan, INCLUDING REPLACING ICT EQUIPMENT
- 3 year plan for the school
- Development of a new Governor meeting schedule, 9 monthly FGBS ready for year 2020/21.