

Mawnan School Governors - impact statement for 2020/21

The core functions of all school governing bodies are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school
- Holding senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing financial performance and making sure money is well spent

How do we do this at Mawnan?

Mawnan School has a group of engaged and committed governors, who are passionate about education and supporting the leadership team to deliver excellent outcomes for all pupils.

We share and champion the school's values and Christian distinctiveness, which help inspire resilience, hope, perseverance, compassion in our children, alongside a thirst for learning.

We bring a breadth of experience from education, social work, finance and business, the creative industries, and journalism to the governing body.

We hold termly meetings of all governors, where we scrutinise attendance, attainment, pupil premium and SEN outcomes, safeguarding, staff wellbeing, pupil numbers and the wider school experiences being offered to all children at our school.

We also have termly meetings of our subcommittees. One committee covers Finance, Health and Safety, Premises and Personnel. The other committee covers Curriculum and Standards, Inclusion and Safeguarding.

Each governor is assigned a subject area or specific area of development to monitor. We undertake visits on a regular basis to meet with subject leaders and talk to children about their experiences at Mawnan. Monitoring reports are shared with all governors and always include the impact of the visit and next steps. We also participate in recruitment panels and undertake a performance management review of the headteacher.

Our chair of governors is a parent at the school and is a highly approachable figure, present at almost every pick up/drop off. With two further parent governors, our governing body is very closely connected to our school community.

We also take an active part in school life, participating in celebration assemblies, collective worship, school trips and sports days. Mawnan School is a special place - full of wonder, joy, imagination and learning. For many of us, our involvement in Mawnan School is a highlight of our community lives.

Our impact in 2020/21

Along with the whole world, 2020/21 was dominated by the covid pandemic. The school stayed open to the children of key workers and vulnerable families throughout, as well as providing high quality teaching via Google classrooms and zoom for those children at home.

As a governing body during 2020/2021 we:

- Supported the headteacher through the pandemic, approving health and safety plans and risk assessments to keep the school community safe.
- Supported staff wellbeing, particularly through the pandemic
- Approved the purchase of Chromebooks for all Key Stage 2 pupils. This meant when a second lockdown was announced in Jan 2021, children were already using Google Classrooms, were able to collect their individual Chromebook from school and carry on learning with Google Classroom and Zoom at home.
- Continued to carry out monitoring visits remotely via Zoom during partial closures.
- Appointed a school improvement partner to externally validate progress at the school.
- Approved the temporary appointment of two assistant headteachers to strengthen school leadership
- Participated in the recruitment of a highly skilled Y3/4 teacher
- Made a succession plan for a new chair of governors, which came into effect in September 2021.
- Appointed a highly skilled professional clerk to the governors
- Ensured our statutory responsibilities as laid out in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020' were met so children were kept safe and well
- Appointed a new Foundation governor
- Conducted a skills audit of governors
- Undertook specialist governor training run by the local authority on governance, Ofsted and school finances.
- Created a new code of conduct for governors
- Created a new induction pack for newly appointed governors
- Supported fundraising efforts to create a new garden at the school (Raising £21k in total).

Our impact so far in 2021/22

- Approved a flexible working request
- Assisted in the recruitment of a new Oppie class teacher
- Assisted in the recruitment of two new teaching assistants
- Conducted the head's performance management review
- Carried out a school website healthcheck
- Undergone school finance training
- Undergone Ofsted training
- Appointed a new parent governor
- Carried out monitoring visits

What we aim to do

- To continue to be a critical friend to the senior leadership team
- To support the school as the community recovers from the pandemic
- To support and scrutinise interventions and attainment gaps
- To further our own development through training opportunities

- To foster and support the school's unique values and Christian distinctiveness