

Governor Annual Statement and Impact Report 2023/2024

The Governing Board at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery endeavours to fulfil the role defined by the Government and supported by the Local Authority. In doing so we hope that we can help to make our school the very best it can be for the benefit of our children and be even better today than we were yesterday.

We should firstly explain that the Governor role is intended to be strategic in nature while being a “critical friend” to the Head teacher and the school senior leadership team, who are responsible for the day-to-day operational running of the school. Governors work together to monitor, challenge and support the head teacher and staff towards school priorities and targets, whilst overseeing the financial performance of the school.

The Governor role is to monitor and challenge the progress of the school and to ensure financial probity.

In reviewing the way in which the school operates, the Governors have developed an enormous respect for all the staff in the school. The amount of effort, care for the children, and “going the extra mile” is seen on a regular basis from all our staff. Not only is academic progress evident in the school, but all other activities, such as Christmas shows, trips, sports days and Beach Schools, make up a very broad and fulfilling education that our children benefit from in the school.

We would like to take this opportunity to give a huge thank you to all our staff for the level of effort and care they all contribute daily.

Membership

Post Type	Seats allocated	Filled Posts
Local Authority	1	1 (Vice-Chair)
Parent	3	2
Co-opted	4	4 (Chair)
Staff	1	1
Associate	1	1 (DHT)

Governor Meetings

At Canvey Island Infant School & Nursery, members of the Governing Board have played, and continue to play, a role in driving the school forward. The current governors are all listed on the website. There have been six formal full Governing Board meetings, plus six Finance and Premise meetings for the year 2023 – 2024. Governor attendance is recorded and available on the website. The sub-committees have performed in accordance with their terms of reference.

Governor Training

During this academic year governors have received training in a range of subjects including safeguarding, prevent, data analysis, finance.

Data analysis

Data is made available to governors through meetings with verbal and written presentations followed by question-and-answer sessions with the Headteacher, Assessment Leader, members of the Senior Leadership Team and Teachers. Governors can then monitor pupil progress across the school curriculum, making sure progress is being made across all ability groups and the effective use of the Pupil Premium.

By doing this the governors can track progress of pupils to ensure the schools standards and expectations are high and are able to be closely scrutinised.

Scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and on the effective use of the Pupil Premium.

Financial Management

Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery has an experienced Chair of the Finance Committee who is fully committed to ensuring that school money is well spent and oversees the financial performance of the school. Many governors have attended Financial Management training, with some having a professional background in finance. The governors have worked closely with the Head Teacher, finance manager and senior leaders to monitor the school budget and ensure value for money.

The impact of the governors' role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively, and improvements are effective and continuous.

Policies

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date. Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department for Education mandatory policy list and the Local Authority recommended list.

Priority areas from School Development Plan

1. Improve attendance to at least 96%
2. The % of children meeting age-related expectation and Great Depth in writing is at least in line with school 2023/National/Essex end of Key Stage One
3. The % of children meeting age-related expectation and Great Depth in reading is at least in line with school 2023/National/Essex end of Key Stage One
4. The % of children meeting age-related expectation and Great Depth in maths is at least in line with school 2023/National/Essex end of Key Stage One

5. All children, from Nursery to year 2, have access to an enhanced and enriched curriculum that enables them to make good progress and achieve at least age-related expectations
6. The curriculum is successfully adapted, designed or developed to be ambitious and meet the needs of pupils with SEND and those who are disadvantaged.
7. For all pupils to communicate at an age-appropriate level

The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SDP and of specific issues. These visits are considered a valuable opportunity for governors to be able to work closely with staff members across the school. Link governors follow a cycle which sets out the monitoring activities which they undertake with the subject leader. Guidance in terms of the roles and responsibilities of governors during their visits are provided, and regular training is available to up-skill our team.

Examples of the impact of these visits include

Co-operative working to prepare and introduce new policies and working practices on Special Educational Needs, Keeping Children Safe in Education and progress towards achieving the Key Objectives in Literacy and Numeracy. The Literacy and Numeracy governors have also ensured school have a programme of effective interventions which show sustained progress and positively impact on learning in Reading, Writing and Maths.

Impact statement – review:

The governing board, the head teacher and senior management team and, indeed, all members of staff, are constantly striving to improve and develop the school.

This level of dedication and expertise has demonstrated itself in pupils growing in their mindset, resilience and academic ability. It is also demonstrated in the allocation and imaginative use of funding to further inspire and up skill teaching staff and pupils. The school holds the Healthy Schools Award, Artsmark Gold Award, Music Mark, Essex Active Mark.

Key issues and priorities that the Governing Body have faced during 2023 – 24

- To re-establish the GB's monitoring and scrutiny duties.
- Work with the school in the development of the Self Evaluation and School Improvement Plan.
- Continue looking to fill the GB's remaining membership vacancies.
- Increase the GB's visibility to pupils, staff and parents.

The governing board has increased in membership and raised their visibility to pupils, staff and parents. This has been achieved by regular monitoring visits, attending school events and meeting staff. The governing board works with the school in the development of the Self Evaluation and Development Plan.