Governance Arrangements:

The Governing Board reconstituted in 2014 under the School Governance Regulations 2012.

In 2015 we re-structured, dissolving the Finance, Personnel & Pay, and Premises/H&S Committees and increased Full Governing Board meetings to monthly, to ensure that all governors are fully informed and involved in key functions and decisions.

The Governing Board is made up of two staff members (including the Head Teacher), three elected Parent Governors, one Local Authority Governor, two Partnership Governors and four co-opted governors. The Deputy Head Teacher also attends as an Associate member. During 2017-18 three governors moved on and we were joined by four new members.

The Full Board met three times each term during 2017-18, concentrating on strategic development. Meetings considered Teaching and Learning, Pupil experience and outcomes, Finance and Personnel, Premises and Health & Safety, and Safeguarding, in rotation.

We also have an annual Head Teacher Performance Management Committee which meets with an external advisor, and a separate committee which looks at Teachers Pay once a year. Other committees meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.

Attendance Record of Governors:

Governors have good attendance. We have never cancelled a meeting because it was not quorate, the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made. The Governors’ Attendance Record is displayed on this site, together with Governor Declaration of Interests and Pen Portraits.

The work that we have done:

The Full Governing Board met 9 times and received regular reports from the Head Teacher and Senior Staff. These included presentations on pupil attainment & data analysis; an introduction to the new ASP - Analyse School Performance – system; behaviour & attendance; provision for and performance of pupils with Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND), English as an Additional Language (EAL), those in receipt of Pupil Premium, Looked After Children and Young Carers; and compliance with the new GDPR - Data Protection Act 2018.

Regular updates were received on inter-school collaboration, staff professional development, pupil intra- and extra-curricular activities, and the results of Parent Questionnaires and the Parents Perspectives group.

This year we also heard about the Healthy Eating Gold Award, the Nursery Peep Learning Together family project, the Leading Parent Partnership Award, the UNICEF Rights Respecting Bronze Award, the new Learning Challenge Curriculum & STEAM family home learning, the June Y6 Isle of Wight/activity week and the new Y3/Y4 PGL East Sussex May activity weekend.

The Governing Board has a rolling programme for reviewing Statutory and Non-Statutory Policies, and to ensure all statutory information is displayed on the school website. A fully compliant annual Schools Financial Values Standard Report was returned to the Local Authority in March 2018.

Named governors with specific responsibility for Finance, Safeguarding, Pupil Premium, SEND, EAL, HR, and Health & Safety, met with staff through the year and reported back to the Governing Board.
A group of governors including the Chair and VC were interviewed as part of the LPPA Award in December and a similar group met with the Ofsted Inspector in February. We were delighted by the ‘Improving towards Outstanding’ Ofsted judgement achieved by the school and would like to thank and congratulate Mrs Priest, all staff, children and parents.

Governors carried out termly Learning Walks, which this year, looked at provision for Academically More Able pupils and the new Challenge Curriculum. We visited the School Council in November and had lunch with the children before our Summer term Learning Walk. Our February walk was unfortunately cancelled because of the snow.

Through the year governors also attended a variety of School Assemblies, Parent Workshops, a Parents Perspectives Group meeting, the drama club’s Shakespeare Julius Caesar production at the Palace Theatre in November, the photography club’s ‘Never Stop Exploring’ Exhibition in the Victoria Shopping Centre in December, and the Children’s University graduation ceremony in January.

Individual governors attended a variety of external training which included New Governor Induction, HT Performance Management, Pupil Premium, SEND and Academically More Able provision and, and external training as a group on Governing Board Effectiveness in April 2018.

The Head Teacher Performance Management Committee:

This Committee met with our external advisor to review last year’s achievements and to set targets for 2017-18, focusing on continually improving outcomes for all pupils.

Future plans for the Governors:

The Governing Board plans to continue monthly meetings to ensure all governors are fully informed and involved in key functions and decisions. We will also be continuing our contributions to the school newsletters after each Governing meeting to update you on our activities. The Chair, Niki Lamont, is stepping down as planned, after her six years in post which she has thoroughly enjoyed, and will be remaining a member of the Board.

How you can contact the Governors:

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the new Chair of Governors, Dave Taylor, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors, their Pen Portraits, declaration of business interests and attendance at meetings on the Governors’ page of the school website.