

Governor Impact Statement

2022/2023

At the end of each school year, we reflect on what we have achieved and where we still have work to do.

This is an important activity for us; as a Governing Body we reflect on the year gone by in order to make changes and improvements where necessary. This reflection includes feedback from the pupils, staff, governors, from parents via the annual school survey and external inspections. Results are analysed and feed into the new School Improvement Plan each year.

Working with the Head teacher Matt Oakley, the Senior Leadership Team and school staff, the Local Governing Body contribute to all core functions, including, but not limited to:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school.
- Ensuring the finances of the school are utilised appropriately and managed effectively.

To fulfil these responsibilities there have been six formal meetings this year and these have fed into the Kernow Learning governance structure. There has also been monitoring in key areas to support the school's development plan. Governors have been mindful of the pandemic and the added pressures this has placed on the school community whilst providing appropriate support and challenge where necessary.

Context and rationale

Following the transfer of Wendron School to Kernow Learning on the 1st September, a Local Governing Body was established. As Chair the priorities were to:

- Ensure we have the right people around the table – enabling governors to become more skilled and filling vacancies with skills require
- Ensure there is a smooth introduction of Kernow Learning Policies from the previous Trust
- Provide training to our new Governors as required.

To meet these priorities the Governing Body have:

- The local Governing Body is now made up of Hannah Stevens, Heather Sanderson, Michael Bretton, Pippa Durham, and Nick Wills. All are extremely skilled and are dedicated to the support of the school in its journey to Good. We are also looking to further Governors in the near future and if you would be interested, please contact.
- This year has seen the creation of a policy framework. Policies relating to our new Trust have been introduced and by the end of term will be fully in place.
- The Governors have been supported by Truro Diocese working with Kernow Learning in the creation of Governor Monitoring Forms for SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican Methodist Schools). This will allow targeted monitoring to take place by Michael Bretton. Training undertaken Michael and the Chair of Governors on the new framework of SIAMS will also allow Governors to support the school going forward.
- A program of Governor training from Kernow Learning will ensure Governors receive high quality Continued Professional Development.

To meet these priorities the Governing Body have:

- Met twice each term to discuss operational and strategic issues with and senior leaders.

- Undertaken regular monitoring visits to the school that have focused on safeguarding, SEND, pupil premium provision and aspects of the curriculum.
- Attended feedback sessions with external advisers and the senior team from Kernow Learning.
- Met with in person or online with school leaders when the need arises.
- Sent termly newsletters to the parents and local community.

Areas of Impact within Wendron

- The Head teacher, Matt Oakley, Catherine Hendy (RE Lead) and the Chair of Governors have played an active role within the Kernow Learning Christian Schools Network
- The Local Governing Body write termly governor newsletters for parents and the local community to raise the profile of governance.
- Governors have been assigned to key monitoring areas and this monitoring links in with the priorities from the School Improvement Plan.
- Continue to be part of the school improvement journey, providing appropriate challenge and support through monitoring and meeting minutes.
- The Chair of Governors joined with the Local Authority in their monitoring of Safeguarding at Wendron. The final report was extremely supportive.
- Continuing with high quality training.

Governor Training

The full governing body continues to stay up to date with mandatory safeguarding training and has extended this further by undertaking a range of additional safeguarding training. They have also ensured that a member of the LGB attended all other training and network opportunities that have been available throughout the year through our Trust and has the opportunity to share key points. The Chair of Governors has been instrumental in trialling training opportunities for governors for next year so that Governor CPD across our Trust is not only effective and diverse, but strengthened moving forwards.

Safeguarding at Wendron Primary School.

Over the school year our safeguarding governors have worked with leaders to ensure the school is meeting requirements for safeguarding and have been impressed with what leaders are doing.

We have reviewed the school's safeguarding policies and ensured that everyone is aware of and following the responsibilities set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Governors have reviewed the Single Central Record to ensure it is kept up to date and the school only appoints staff who are suitable to work with children.

Our safeguarding governor, Nick Wills along with the Chair of Governors has joined Mr Oakley to complete the 157 audit. We had to rate the school in several areas to ensure safeguarding was being fully addressed and provide evidence of this. This was then subject to a peer review.

Safeguarding Review

In April, Wendron School took part in a Safeguarding Review with the Local Authority. The Report stated:

- The Chair of Governors is supportive and proactive, meeting regularly with the Head Teacher and feeding back to the governing body. He has been in place since the IEB was put into place and has remained as chair.
- The trust has a format for the Head Teacher's report, which is provided to governors by the Head in a timely manner and with appropriate detail.
- All LGB members have Governor specific SG training, PREVENT, SG training bespoke to Serious care reviews that have shaped Governmental policy, school specific training, child on child, online safety, safer recruitment and anti-bullying, KCSiE updates and termly updates of Contextualised SG issues at LGB meetings
- SG Governors have a termly network meeting.

- All Governors are supported with templates to guide them on what to look for and how to challenge and to guide on a strategic level and not operationally involved

Impact within Church Schools and our wider community

- The Governing Body have continued to support other schools Local Governing Bodies across the country, promoting the innovative practice and preparation for their own inspections; this is in keeping with our Christian Values.
- The Chair of Governors has continued to support another Local Governing Body within Kernow Learning.
- The Governors have taken part in training in preparation for SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican Methodist Schools) visits.
- The Governing Body continue to share examples of Best Practice throughout Kernow Learning.

Priorities for the Local Governing Body for the next year other than our core functions:

- Continue on the schools journey to a Good School. This is paramount. We continue to be well supported by Kernow Learning School Improvement Team who are Quality Assuring the work carried out by the Senior Leadership Team including Governors.
- Ensure that Governors undertake Continued Personal Development training available through Kernow Learning
- Governors will continue to monitor the following areas::
 - Standards and curriculum
 - Safeguarding (with focus on SEMH/TIS)
 - Inclusion – SEND and disadvantage
 - Stakeholders
 - Christian Distinctiveness
- Ensure that there detailed evidence across all areas of our school as we prepare for SIAMS
- Ensure we have the right people around the table – enabling governors to become more skilled and filling vacancies with skills required

Our school mission is to build a spiritual and dynamic community which is enthusiastic for learning and which embraces the achievement of potential for all. We use this to test our impact as governors.

It is an honour to work alongside the dedicated, supportive and hardworking team at Wendron and the Governing Body is looking forward to what 2023/24 will bring.

Best wishes,

Robert Scott Wilson

Chair of Governors Wendron School