

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Villa Real School.
July 2023.



Villa Real School Vision

Improving the quality of life for our young people and their families

Our vision is one of a dynamic, well-resourced school, with clear and open communication, holistic in its approach, proactive in its attitude to change, striving to improve the standards of achievement and quality of life for its young people and their families, through an appropriate, inclusive, well balanced and meaningful education.

The school, as an essential part of the wider community, is committed to providing a totally integrated service for young people through the development of strong links with families, other service providers and schools, industry, business, churches, and charitable institutions, and through our specialist knowledge in communication and interaction. Villa Real is a school where parents are partners, the governing body is active, expectations are high, learning is fun, and in a mutually supportive environment staff and young people are motivated to do their best.

Article 23 United Nations Convention Rights of the Child
A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life in conditions that promote dignity, independence and an active role in the community
September 2015

The Governing Body of Villa Real School has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring the clarity of vision
- Holding the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, the performance and management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Governance arrangements

The full Governing Body and the various committees meets a minimum of once each term. We have maintained maximum attendance with hybrid meetings in some instances

At Villa Real we have the following:

Finance, Buildings and Health & Safety Committee. Meets termly, to discuss all matters financial and related to site and premises.

Curriculum and Resources Committee. Meets termly, focus on Curriculum policies, Teaching and learning, assessment and attainment.

Staff Committee. Meets termly and focusing on staffing matters, recruitment and performance management.

In addition, there are a range of other committees including: Pay Review Committee, Appeals Committee, First Committee and Head Teachers Performance Committee.

Governors are committed to ongoing development and extensive training. We continue to deepen our understanding of the ever-changing role of the governor in light of the ever changing Education arena, and are focused on our strategic 3 Core functions: Setting Strategic Direction; Creating Robust Accountability and Ensuring best use of Financial Resources.

In addition to being committee members, Governors at Villa Real are also linked to a Key Stage and/or subjects of the school. Each term governors spend focused time to monitor the School Improvement Plan, and to ensure information given

	<p>to us by the Senior Leaders and Teachers, are a true and accurate reflection. We were able to restart our monitoring visits in person this academic year.</p> <p>The Headteacher and Chair of Governors meet monthly or more if required, to discuss the school's current position as part of the school monitoring process.</p> <p>In the Autumn Term we held our annual 'Governors Conference', a day for governors to review the year, the pupils' attainment and progress, and to extend on Strategic planning for the future of the school and review the ongoing vision.</p> <p>All Governing Body meetings are focused, productive and well attended.</p> <p>Governors continue to attend specific training designed for governors, and provided by the Local Authority, Safeguarding First, Ofsted, or training within their workplace.</p> <p>This academic year, two new governors have been appointed. One a parent who has a finance background, and one the pastor of a local church as an RE specialist.</p>
<p>Key Issues faced by the Governing Body</p>	<p>The Governing Body of Villa Real School has fulfilled its duties in terms of monitoring areas of the school's work whilst simultaneously offering support and appropriate challenge through agreed agendas of both Committee and Full Governing Body meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreeing and monitoring the use of Pupil Premium, Catch up, Sports Premium • School monitoring Governor Visits implemented termly have included meetings with subject co-ordinators, learning walks, Safeguarding reviews, and meeting with leaders regarding wellbeing, online safety, Equality & Diversity. Full record is available. • Governors meetings are scheduled regularly with Key Stage Leaders and Link Governors. • Ensuring REAL Curriculum and REAL Progress is consistently implemented. • Quality assure and challenge regarding the small minority of pupils who are persistent absentees.

<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>Governors provide a high level of challenge to the Headteacher and the school.</p> <p>Governors consider a range of documents and data provided by the school to make informed accurate judgements of strategies implemented within the school.</p> <p>Governors utilise a range of external sources to triangulate their views including Local Authority team, Safeguarding First, Investors in Children</p> <p>The school regularly utilises external audit tools to support governors and leaders' decision making.</p> <p>The implementation of the monitoring calendar has provided a more co-ordinated framework for both Governors and staff. As a result, Governors have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased their knowledge of the school by meeting with relevant staff. • Governors have asked challenging questions using forums and meeting with a variety of school staff. • Governors have scrutinised a wide range of data & there has been a greater ability when challenging the Headteacher and holding the Headteacher to account. • Feedback from both parents and pupils has been gathered at regular intervals.
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review committee structure and implement any necessary changes regarding members on an Annual basis to reflect skills. • Continue with school monitoring as detailed in the school monitoring calendar 22023/24 and onward. • To continue to hold the school to account, ensuring the best possible outcomes for pupils are achieved and or exceeded. • To continue to move the school forward to ensure the school is consistently outstanding.

Contact Details	<p>Villa Real School welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from Parents/ Carers.</p> <p>Please contact the Chair of Governors Suzanne Bailey via the school office.</p> <p>All Governing Body details are available on the school website- section Governors.</p>
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