



MACAULAY C.E. SCHOOL

Victoria Rise, Clapham, London SW4 0NU

Tel: 020 7 622 1355

e-mail: talktogovernors@macaulay.lambeth.sch.uk

Governors' Annual Statement to Parents 2023-2024

Guidance from the Department for Education recommends that Governing Bodies make an annual statement to parents. The Governing Body at our school endeavours to fulfil the role defined by Government, 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.

This statement summarises how we have fulfilled our responsibilities:

- that governance arrangements that are in place, including the remit of the committees;
- the attendance record of individual governors at Governing Body and committee meetings; and
- an assessment of the effectiveness and impact of the Governing Body and its committees with details of any particular challenges that have arisen.

The Governor role is intended to be strategic in nature while being a 'critical friend' to the Head Teacher and the school leadership team, who are responsible for the day to day running of the school. The Governors have enormous respect for the staff in the school. The amount of effort, care for our children, and 'going the extra mile' we see regularly from all our staff is inspirational.

Over the last academic year, we have seen the way in which the whole staff team has worked to focus on the core curriculum as well as providing an enriched and exciting extra-curricular programme. We have supported the school as it has worked to engage and inform the parent community including through events such as whole school services at HTC, the nativity and end of year performances and has worked with the PTA to run fundraising events such as the Christmas and Summer Fairs.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body is made up of 16 positions, as follows:

- Three Parent Governors appointed by a ballot of parents
- One Governor appointed by the Local Authority
- One Staff Governor appointed by a ballot of staff
- Two Ex-Officio Governors: The Head Teacher and the Rector of Holy Trinity Church Clapham
- One Co-opted Governor appointed by the Governing Body
- Two Foundation Governors appointed by the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education
- Six Foundation Governors appointed by Holy Trinity Church.

The current governors are listed on the website. All governors have the same responsibilities. They do not represent their appointers but are intended to be representative of them.

Our agenda planner helps us to ensure that all the topics we are required to discuss each year are covered. We have three main sub-committees that perform much of the detailed work, in accordance with their terms of reference:

- Standards & Achievements Committee. Responsible for reviewing the curriculum related policies of the school, and ensuring that the school's standards are maintained;
- Parents, Pupils & Community Committee. Responsible for monitoring the Christian distinctiveness of the school and the SIAMs report, communication with parents and monitoring parent and pupil surveys;
- Resources Committee. Responsible for reviewing and monitoring the budget for the school, and overseeing the financial management of the school. Also responsible for overseeing health & safety issues and issues related to the premises.

Attendance Record

The attendance record for each of the governors is on the website. Many of us are not educational specialists but bring experience and skills from other professions that help us together to form an effective governing body. Attendance at meetings is only part of the role. We also talk to staff on different aspects of the curriculum, spend time in school to review different aspects of the running of the school and a number of governors volunteer or are also parent helpers. In line with our continuous improvement ethos, we ask that all governors undertake at least one governor training activity each year.

Effectiveness and Impact of the Board for the year 2023-2024

We continue to review our effectiveness, having regard to Government and Local Authority guidance.

- New Head Teacher

In the Summer of 2023 the governors conducted a process of seeking applications for the role of Head Teacher and interviewing candidates, resulting in the appointment of Susan Eade.

One of the main areas of focus for the governors in the last year has been supporting the new Head Teacher, who started in September 2023, and her Senior Leadership Team.

The Governing Body is pleased that the transition to new leadership has been so smooth.

- Ofsted

There was an Ofsted inspection in December 2023 and the inspectors commented on the supportive role played by the governors and their knowledge of, and keen involvement with, the life of the school.

- Curriculum

The governors have continued to place strong emphasis on reviewing the teaching of the core subjects and regular monitoring of progress and attainment reports. In addition, the governors have been keen to support extra-curricular activities such as after school clubs, visits to places of interest and school/class trips etc in order that our pupils benefit from as wide a learning experience as possible.

Conclusion

I hope that this statement is useful and we would appreciate any comments. Suggestions are welcome at any time through the school email address or the front office.

Best wishes,

Sarah Thomas
Chair of Governors

October 2024