

# Hemingbrough Primary School

## Annual School Governors Report 2016/2017

### Governors

**Ruth Waters** –  
Chair, Co-opted Governor  
6/6 meetings attended

**Stuart Ballantyne** –  
Local Authority Governor  
and Chair of Resources  
Committee (outgoing)  
4/4 meetings attended

**Ben Bowers** –  
Vice-Chair, Parent Governor  
5/6 meetings attended

**Rachel Hall** –  
Parent Governor  
5/6 meetings attended

**Nick Wilkinson** –  
Co-Opted Governor  
3/3 meetings attended

**Sian Chapman** –  
Parent Governor  
5/5 meetings attended

**Alison Copsey** –  
Parent Governor  
4/4 meetings attended

**Sarah Read** –  
Staff Governor  
6/6 meetings attended

**Sarah Chappell** –  
Headteacher  
6/6 meetings attended

Staff Attendees:  
**Julie Easthill and Ruth Hayes**

The Governors would like to thank **Stuart Ballantyne** has stood down during this year and we are grateful for his service and support.

Here at Hemingbrough CP School we continue to work hard to maintain and exceed our Good OFSTED rating. As Governors we work to support the Headteacher, Mrs Chappell, to put plans and process in place to ensure all children make good progress within a broad and fun curriculum helping them become fulfilled, happy and engaging people.

### Our Vision, Values and Aims

Last year the Governors worked on a new Vision and set of Values for the School which we have been putting into practice during this School year. The Vision and Values give focus to not only the Governing body meetings but also throughout day to day School life. We have found these new principles to be a perfect fit for our School encompassing what we want to achieve for all the children both from an educational and personal point of view.

### School Governors

We are pleased to welcome several new Governors to the governing body during this School Year, they are Nick Wilkinson, Sian Chapman and Alison Copsey. We will also say goodbye to our Local Authority Governor, Stuart Ballantyne who has been with us several years. We would like to thank Stuart for his commitment to the School and work with us.

#### What does the Governing Body do?

The School Governors have three main core functions:

- Setting the vision and strategic direction of the school
- Holding the headteacher to account for its educational performance
- Ensuring financial resources are well spent.

Governors meet at regular intervals through the year to assess School performance, ensure the School is run smoothly and within budget and discuss any external factors that may affect the School – this has recently included discussion around Academies and the funding changes we are seeing nationally and how they will affect our School.

Each of our Governors also takes on a lead role for a specific subject or area of specialism, such as English, Science, Child Protection. In this capacity the Governor will arrange to visit classes and view teaching in their specialism area. The Governor will then report back to the governing body on what they saw giving an insight into the teaching and experience the Children have of that subject. As a governing body this insight means we have hands on knowledge and a better view of what is happening when making decisions, ensuring they are done with the best interests of the School and pupils in the first instance.

**If you are interested in becoming a governor, please contact Mrs Chappell to discuss it, as we currently have vacancies we want to fill.**

#### Note from outgoing Governor Stuart Ballantyne

*"I very much wanted to share my experience of being a governor at Hemingbrough and am happy for it to be used in any future audits or communications you think it may help to support. I have been a governor on two separate occasions - once as a parent governor and once as a LA governor both of which saw the school face significant and varied challenges in common I suspect with all schools. I was always hugely impressed with at Hemingbrough was the quality of the staff and the leadership at the school. The commitment to delivering the very best outcomes for the children of the school was always paramount in the thoughts minds and actions of the staff and there is no doubt that generations of pupils have been prepared for future educational and life challenges by the grounding the staff at the school gave them. Academically results always seem to be at or above expected standards - what is most impressive is that these results are achieved with a disproportionate number of SEN pupils and those with disabilities. The presence of these children does not hinder the school in its development of the potential of all pupils but seems to enhance it and also gives them a sense of kinship and appreciation of the needs of others that would not otherwise be the case. This is something that I know is not only acknowledged by the parents of the vast majority of children but also by the teachers and leaders of the secondary schools that the pupil graduate onto. I'm not sure how much you and your team appreciate how much Hemingbrough children are coveted for their positive behaviours as well as their academic skills."*

## Key news for 2016-2017

### Homework Challenge Menu

During the Easter Term the School introduced a 'Homework Menu'. We are pleased with how you and your children are responding to this new Homework and we look forward to seeing all the excellent work your children have been doing at home. Learning at home as well as at School is an important part of every child's development. We hope you are enjoying engaging with your children on the challenges, some of our Parent Governors have commented that the challenges are great to give guidance to us as parents when encouraging them to do additional learning at home. We feel that this style of homework will engage all our children, encourage independent learning and self motivation as well as enriching / extending the curriculum.

### SMSC and Fundamental British Values

SMSC stands for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education. SMSC takes a high priority at our School and is embedded into our broad curriculum as well as through extra-curricular activities, trips, and clubs and theme days. Whilst this has been part of our curriculum for some time the meaning and importance is becoming increasingly paramount. In School we think about how the activities and projects we do can help the children to understand a number of key factors, these are British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with differing faiths and beliefs. More information of this area can be found on the School website.

### Handwriting

This year, Mrs Taylor, English leader introduced a new handwriting policy across the school. This was intended to improve the presentation of children's work and ensure a consistent whole school approach. The particular style was also selected as it improves writing flow/fluency and fosters a smooth transition to joined up writing which is required from an early age. We have seen fantastic results since its introduction.

## Fundraising and FAN Club

We have had a number of events over the course of the School year, some of those arranged by Mrs Chappell and the teachers and others by the Parents who run FAN Club. We would like to thank you all for your support, the funds we raise really do improve the children's time at school in providing the additional things that School funding cannot always cover. Please continue to get involved we have seen the money spent on some amazing things this year including the full School trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Pantomime, Computer Software and outdoor equipment.

### Sept 16 – July 17 Sports

#### Sports Events/competitions:

3 Football, X Country, Dodgeball, Key Steps Gym, Netball, Dance Festival, KS2 Cluster Sports, Tag Rugby, Tri Golf, Cricket, Swimming Festival

#### After school clubs:

York City football, Gym, Dance, Rounders, Multi Sports, Netball, Tri Golf, Cosmic Yoga, Storytime, Cricket, Puzzle, Lego, Science

### Sept 16 – July 17 Wider Curriculum Events

#### Theme days:

Art Attack, Australia Day, World Café, World Book Day, Time Team, House Charity Day

#### Other enrichment activities:

P4C, Sugar Free Workshops, Onsie Day, Recycling Sale, Panto, Power Down Pete (Saving Planet Earth), Robin Wood, East Barnby, Bikeability, Forest School, Red Nose Day, Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Dance A Thon, Open Afternoon, House PE Day, Y5 Specialism Day, Talent Show, Florence Nightingdale Visit, Countryside Day, RSPCA Workshops, Leavers Trip, STEM Fair

To find out more about becoming a Governor and the work of Governors contact Mrs Chappell 01757 638266 or visit <http://www.hemingbrough.n-yorks.sch.uk/>