



**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Hambleton
Church of England VC Primary {Hambleton} School**

July 2023

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Hambleton School Governing Body are:

1. *ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction*
2. *holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils*
3. *overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.*

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body of Hambleton School was reconstituted on 21st May 2020 and now comprises:

- Three parent governors
- One local authority governor
- One staff governor
- Headteacher
- Four co-opted governors
- Three foundation governors

Many and varied skills are required to contribute to the effective governance of a school. A key aspect of governance is to ensure that the school's Governing Body comprises individuals who possess some or all of those skills and that, across the Governing Body as a whole, all skills considered essential or desirable are present. The governors who have sat on the governing body during the academic year 2022-2023 have most definitely fulfilled that requirement.

Skills identified as being 'essential' are:-

- Commitment to improving education for all pupils
- Ability to work in a professional manner as part of a team and take collective responsibility for decisions
- Willingness to learn and undertake any training
- Commitment to the school's vision and ethos
- Devote time and energy required to be an effective governor
- Understanding and experience of strategic planning
- Ability to analyse and review complex issues objectively
- Problem solving & influencing skills
- Ability to propose and consider innovative solutions
- Understanding of current education policy
- Understanding the various sources and forms of information/data
- Communication skills, including being able to discuss sensitive issues tactfully and effective listening
- Ability to analyse data
- Ability to question and challenge
- Performance management/ appraisal of someone else
- Self-evaluation
- Staff recruitment
- Financial planning/management
- Teaching
- Special Educational Needs
- Safeguarding

Skills identified as being 'desirable' include:-

- Available to attend school during school hours
- Coaching and mentoring
- Health and Safety
- ICT/Computing
- Experience of being a board member in another sector or a governor/trustee in another school
- Experience of handling complaints, grievances or appeals

The governing body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year. During 2017-8 the committee structure previously in place until 2016-17 was removed in order that the full governing body now focuses on all areas of governance. This remained the case throughout 2022-23.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the Governing Body of governors' attendance at meetings. Details of attendance can be found below.

Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made.

The work we have done in Governing Body Meetings

Local partnership

This year saw our Headteacher, Mr Williams adopt the temporary position of Executive Headteacher, covering both our school and another local primary school, for two terms leading up to Easter 2023. This arrangement was put in place to cover maternity leave at the other school and governors were heavily involved in assessing potential risks to our school and giving the final go-ahead for the agreement to be put in place.

The arrangement not only provided an opportunity for Mr Williams to observe how another school operates and take on board any learnings, but also allowed members of staff at Hambleton to gain valuable experience of leadership during his absence.

Pupil attainment and progress

Governors understand what school assessment data tells them about pupils' attainment; they can also describe how the school's assessment systems give detailed information about pupils' progress to identify any patterns that might emerge. Governors are well informed about the quality of teaching and pupils' achievement. They understand the use and analysis of data about pupils' attainment and progress and how these are linked to the quality of teaching and School Development Plan {SDP} priorities.

Governors know how the pupil premium funding is spent and the impact it is having on the achievement of disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils in the school. They also receive detailed reports on how the sports premium funding has raised the profile of PE and sport and is positively impacting upon all children.

Monitoring activity

Governors look at pupils' work, visit school frequently in a variety of capacities and receive reports about the quality of teaching. They hold school to account effectively by asking searching questions, and by setting challenging targets as part of the Headteacher's performance management. They also make sure that pupils' achievement is taken into account when making decisions about teachers' pay.

Finance

The Governing Body has ensured that 'best value' is always obtained when school funds are spent and has made strenuous efforts to safeguard funds entrusted to school from the public purse.

Strategic Planning for the future

Through the SDP, governors have a clear picture of how well the school is doing and where it needs to improve. Link Governors with specific responsibility for supporting the monitoring reading, writing and mathematics conduct strategic activities taken from the SDP. They hold discussions with pupils, visit classrooms, take part in work scrutiny and submit evidence forms and reports that feed into the school's self-evaluation.

How to contact your governing body

You can contact the Chair of Governors by email at:- cofg@hambleton.n-yorks.sch.uk

The Hambleton School Governing Body – Membership

Governor	Category	Term of Office (Expiry Date)
Andy Reed	Co-opted [<i>Chair of Governors</i>]	May 2024
David Adamson	Co-opted	May 2024
Emily Collins	Staff	Nov 2026
Nigel Croad	Parent	Oct 2023
Elkie Gardner	Parent	Mar 2026
Julie Geary	Foundation	Ex-officio
Jon Glover	Foundation	<i>Resigned July 2023</i>
Claire Hardy	Co-opted [<i>Vice Chair</i>]	May 2024
Joanne Harpham	Staff	<i>Term of Office ended Oct 2022</i>
Paul Ingledew	Parent	Feb 2027
Kirsty Murray	Local Authority	Feb 2026
Margaret Seager	Foundation	Jan 2024
Caroline Wynn-Davies	Co-opted	Nov 2024
Tim Williams	Headteacher	Ex-officio
Associate Member(s)		
Rev. Anna Burr		
Sara Fogg		

The Hambleton School Governors' Attendance Record for 2022 – 2023 (%)

Governor						
Andy Reed	6/6	100%				
David Adamson	4/6	67%				
Emily Collins	5/6	83%				
Nigel Croad	4/6	67%				
Elkie Gardner	5/6	83%				
Julie Geary	1/1	100%				
Jon Glover	4/6	67%				
Claire Hardy	5/6	83%				
Joanne Harpham	1/1	100%				
Paul Ingledew	2/4	50%				
Kirsty Murray	3/6	50%				
Margaret Seager	5/6	83%				
Caroline Wynn-Davies	5/6	84%				
Tim Williams	6/6	100%				