

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Richmond Methodist School July 2015

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Richmond Methodist 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 Full Governing Body of Richmond Methodist School was reconstituted in Richmond Methodist School on 1st June 2015 and is now made up of 16 governors as follows –

- (a) 6 parent governors*
- (b) 1 Authority governor*
- (c) 1 staff governor
- (d) 1 Headteacher (ex-officio)
- (d) 4 foundation governors
- (e) 3 co-opted governors*

The Full Governing Body meets on 6 occasions during the school year. The Full Governing Body delegates some responsibilities to three committees (Curriculum & Pastoral; Buildings & School Environment and; Finance and Resources) which meet 3 times a year. Individual governors take on responsibilities for certain areas of the school's work including health & safety, safeguarding, pupil premium and SEND.

The names of the members of the Governing Body are provided later in this document, as well as their attendance at meetings of the Full Governing Body during the academic year 2014-2015. Their terms of office expiry dates are also provided later in the document.

We currently have some governor vacancies (marked with an asterisk *) which we will be seeking to fill in early Autumn. We are particularly keen to recruit volunteers with financial skills. If you would be interested in volunteering for this role and playing a part in supporting the school please email cofg@richmondmethodist.n-yorks.sch.uk for further details.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the Clerk to the Governing Body, of governors' attendance at all meetings. Details of attendance can be found at the end of this Annual Governance Statement.

A review of 2014-2015

Members of the Governing Body have worked hard to understand all aspects of their role this year and contribute fully to the work of the school. In our annual review in July we agreed that over the course of the year we had become -

- A more disciplined Governing Body with high levels of attendance and punctuality, with an improved meeting structure
- A stronger team moving the school towards excellence
- More confident in working through committees
- More confident in matters relating to health and safety
- More proactive in meetings; willing to share and; work collaboratively
- More willing to participate in training

During the academic year 2014-2015, the Governing Body has ensured clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction at Richmond Methodist School by reconstitution according to *The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 (the "2012 Constitution Regulations")* and the *School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2012 (the "2012 Federation Regulations")* as amended by the *School Governance (Constitution and Federations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014*. The successful appointment of Miss Helen Ring, as the new headteacher, was a further opportunity to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction at Richmond Methodist School.

During the academic year 2014-2015, the Governing Body has held the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and the pupils through regular and detailed analysis of pupil data. A presentation from a National Leader of Governance in March 2015 helped us to understand our accountabilities for pupil achievement, particularly in relation to vulnerable groups of children. Although we await confirmation of KS1 and KS2 performance, we know that the school has improved on 2013-2014 results.

During the academic year 2014-2015, the Governing Body has overseen the financial performance of the school and made sure its money is well spent. This has not been without some considerable challenge, but the school remains in a robust financial position, helped to some extent by an increasing school roll. The school has been able to develop a new and well-designed learning environment as well as refurbish some classrooms during the summer holidays. Linda Player, from North Yorkshire County Council finance team, delivered finance training to the Governing Body in December 2014 and we continue to be ably supported by Chris Wallis from the NYCC Bursar Service.

Some of the Governing Body's work is to review the ways of working of the school. We follow North Yorkshire County Council's advice on this and in many cases choose to adopt

the County's policies. This year we have reviewed a number of policies all of which are referenced in the minutes of the Full Governing Body meetings and published on the school website.

Approved minutes of the Full Governing Body meetings are available on the school's website <http://www.richmondmethodist.n-yorks.sch.uk/>

Strategic Planning for the future - Priorities for 2015-2016

During the academic year 2014-2015, the Governing Body will continue to

1. Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction through managing the appointment of a deputy headteacher; re-visiting the school's vision with stakeholders and; reviewing school policies. We will also continue to discuss how governors can support the school in moving towards excellence.
2. Hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils through regular and detailed analysis of pupil data; monitoring the progress of the School Development Plan; making visits to the school and; training on assessment without levels to ensure that we are able to offer appropriate challenge and support so that all pupils achieve to the best of their abilities.
3. Oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent through new governor membership; further training and; regular in-year financial monitoring.

How to contact your governing body

Information about the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website.

To contact the Chair of Governors please email cofg@richmondmethodist.n-yorks.sch.uk

The Richmond Methodist School Governing Body – membership

Governor	Category	Term of office expiry date
Janet Linsley	Chair of Governors (co-opted 01/06/15)	01/01/11 - 31/05/19
Tim Arundell	Vice Chair (Parent Governor)	21/11/11 - 20/11/15
Two Vacancies	Co-opted Governor	
Tom Lascelles	Foundation Governor	01/09/12 - 31/08/16

Rev. Les Nevin	Foundation Governor	22/11/13 - 21/11/17
Jenny Hargreaves	Foundation Governor	12/09/12 - 11-09-16
One vacancy	Foundation Governor	
Eithne Longstaff	Parent Governor	02/10/12 - 01/10/16
Paul Bell	Parent Governor	25/11/13 - 24/11/17
Nicola Scrafton	Parent Governor	26/11/12 - 25/11/16
Marie Mann	Parent Governor	27/01/14 - 26/01/18
Vacancy	Parent Governor	
Linda Sims	Staff Governor	01/09/13 - 31/08/17
Mark Allison	Headteacher	Ongoing
Vacancy	LA Governor	

Attendance Records for Richmond Methodist Primary School: 2014-15

Name of Governor	Category	Full Governing Body	Comment
Janet Linsley	Community (Co-opted from 1 st June 2015)	100%	
Mark Allison	Headteacher (ex-officio)	100%	

Linda Sims	Staff	50%	Absence consented to
Lorraine Hodgson	Staff	100%(when in post)	Resigned 01/12/14
Tom Lascelles	Foundation	100%	
Rev. Les Nevin	Foundation	66%	Absence consented to
Jenny Hargreaves	Foundation	100%	
Anthea Dunne	Community Governor	100% (when in post)	Resigned 01/12/14
Gina Clarke	Parent	33% (when in post)	Term of office ended July 2015
Eithne Longstaff	Parent	83%	Absence consented to
Tim Arundell	Parent	83%	Absence consented to
Paul Bell	Parent	66%	Absence consented to
Nicola Scrafton	Parent	100%	
Marie Mann	Parent	100%	