



### **Governing Body**

With members from across the local Enfield community and beyond, St Andrew's governing board is a group of individuals with varied backgrounds and skills who come together to support and drive the school's continued development. The governing board regularly reviews its make-up and skills set to ensure it has the skills and diversity needed to meet its responsibilities to the school and its pupils.

In the April 2024, we said goodbye to Tracey Jenkins, whose wide experience of school governance was invaluable to the Governing Board. We thank her for her contribution and wish her well for the future.

See the school website for details of current membership of the Governing Board and the main committees.

### **Role of Governing Body**

A school's governing board has three main responsibilities:

- i) To help set and maintain the ethos and strategic direction of the school;
- ii) To hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- iii) To ensure that the school uses its resources effectively and efficiently for the benefit of the pupils.

At St Andrew's, the full governing board meets in the autumn, spring and summer terms, to ensure that these responsibilities are fulfilled. The full Governing Board meetings are supplemented by regular meetings of a number of sub-committees, particularly the Resources and Curriculum committees. These committees look in greater depth at plans and proposals from the headteacher and senior leadership team, as well as considering the levels of attainment and progress of the children in the school. The committees report to the full Governing Board.

In addition, some governors have special responsibility for specific aspects of school policy, for example on safeguarding, well-being, Health & Safety and GDPR. The governors are focussed on supporting the headteacher and the staff in providing positive opportunities for every child in an inclusive Christian environment.



#### **Partnership with St. Paul's CE Primary School**

The 2023/24 academic year was the second year of our formal partnership with St. Paul's Church of England Primary School in Winchmore Hill.

The governors are pleased that the partnership has continued to deliver benefits for both schools and have therefore agreed to extend the partnership for at least another year. Some of those benefits include:

- The Senior Leadership Teams in both schools sharing post Ofsted information;
- Joint staff pedagogical training each half term, with teachers taking the lead in delivering sessions;
- Writing moderation in year groups with colleagues from the Enfield Town Schools Partnership;
- Some shared INSET days for joint staff training;
- Some joint Governor briefings to consider topics of interest to both schools;
- The two School Business Managers have supported each other with finance information; and
- Financial savings have been made where possible, through joint purchasing of goods and services.

Working with Miss Mann and Mrs Statham, the Governors will continue to monitor the impact of the partnership on St. Andrew's and will keep the wider school community updated on future plans for the partnership as the 2024/25 academic year progresses. Our priority continues to be the further improvement of outcomes for our children.

#### **Staffing**

The school staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are the most valuable asset for any school, and the governors are pleased that St Andrew's school had a full teaching staff complement to start the 2024/25 school year. The governors have been involved in staff recruitments where appropriate and are satisfied that all the correct procedures have been followed, particularly those relating to safeguarding.

The Governors are sharply aware of the importance of a stable staff body to the continued success of St Andrew's and the need to ensure a positive working environment to achieve this. The governors monitor staff well-being and take account of the impact on staff work/life balance in their deliberations on policies and practices at the school.

The continuing partnership with St Paul's CE Primary School has provided staff with access to greater professional development opportunities, to enhance their teaching knowledge and skills and further improve the outcomes for our children.



### **Achievements**

The 2023/24 school year continued to be challenging for all schools, not least because of the ongoing pressures on school budgets. Nevertheless, we are very proud of all that the school has achieved over the past year, both in terms of academic achievement and in extra-curricular and community activities.

A lot of work has been done in the past year to implement the Literacy Tree scheme across the school, with a particular focus on writing. The Mathematics Mastery scheme has also been successfully introduced and all staff have worked hard to make sure that both these schemes are benefiting all pupils.

The Christian ethos of our school continues to be a core strength. The governors are proud of the care that is taken to ensure that the welfare and safety of children, parents and staff remain at the forefront of everything that is done. The school is an integral part of the local community and great care is taken both to support the development of a Christian ethos and school values within the school, as well as encouraging the children to look beyond themselves to the wider world and consider societal issues. As well as community facing activities, such as visits to a local care home, there have also been partnerships with local secondary schools, such as the reading project with Enfield Grammar and music and STEM activities with Chace Community school.

The governors have continued to fulfil their responsibilities in relation to the school's performance and strategic direction. Full Governing Board are held in person at the school, although some committee meetings continued to be held via Microsoft Teams.

The governors always relish the opportunity to engage in a full programme of Learning Walks, co-ordinated by Mrs Statham. Once again, the focus was on those areas linked to the School Improvement Plan. These have included EYFS, Reading and Mental Health Week, as well as Pupil Premium and SEND.

These Learning Walks are important in enabling the governors fulfil their statutory responsibilities. During these visits, the governors also spoke to children and staff, enabling them to gain a rounded picture of what is happening in school.

The governors remain grateful to Miss Mann, Mrs Statham and all the staff of St Andrew's for continuing to encourage and support each child to achieve their best in everything that they do.



### Curriculum

The Curriculum Committee has oversight of the policies relating to teaching and learning in the school, as well as pupil attainment. We regularly review the curriculum for maths, reading and writing.

This year the Committee has paid particular attention to the introduction of the Maths Mastery programme across the school, as well as Mental Health and Wellbeing provision (for staff and children). The Committee has also been leading the governors' support for the Senior Leadership Team in preparing for the next Ofsted inspection.

We also considered the school's SEND provision, in the face of rising demand and increased complexity of needs, to try to ensure that the school is doing all that it can to provide equality of access to the curriculum for all children.

The Committee regularly examines the pupil attendance figures and the work that the school does to encourage full attendance by all pupils. It is good to see that the school's hard work in this area is paying off, so that the attendance figures for St Andrew's are back at pre-Covid levels and consistently exceed the national average.

### Resources

The Resources Committee sets a policy framework for all expenditure, including levels of expenditure delegated to the Headteacher. It ensures that expenditure is focused on the School Development Plan and on meeting the needs of all students. The committee sets an annual budget and a three-year projected budget which has to be approved by the Full Governing Board and oversees the annual audit return.

The Governors have worked to support the Executive Headteacher in achieving a balanced budget in a period with limited resources and increasing costs. Managing the school budget continues to be particularly challenging and the Governors are particularly grateful for the work that Miss Mann, Mrs Statham and Mrs Lai, the School Business Manager, put into trying to ensure that the financial pressures do not impact the education and wellbeing of the children in our care.

Rental income remains stable and the governors appreciate the continued significant financial support provided by the school community and parents both directly and through the hard work of our wonderful PTA.

We would also like to thank those parents who have made a voluntary contribution to the Governors' Fund. The majority of this money goes to the London Diocesan Board for Schools Maintenance Fund to help pay for the upkeep of the school buildings and helps to ensure that the teaching and learning environment for all the children remains safe, secure and comfortable.

### Admissions

The Governing Board regularly reviews the admissions criteria which are used to award places in the school and last year the Governors consulted on changes to the Admissions Policy for entry to the school from September 2025. St Andrew's remains a popular school, but the recent drop in the number of pre-school age children across all London boroughs, combined with a post-Covid trend for families to move out of London, means that we cannot be complacent. The Governors will therefore continue to work to ensure that our school remains sustainable for the future. At St Andrew's, the Governors are proud that the children receive the highest standard of education and pastoral support, in a safe, caring environment. The Governors will continue to work with the Senior Leadership team to ensure that prospective parents appreciate this and will want to become part of our wonderful school community.



#### Activities

In addition to attending governing board meetings and participating in Learning Walks, the governors are involved with the life of the school in other ways. For example, by:

- i) sitting on recruitment panels;
- ii) participating in events run by the PTA (eg the Summer Fair);
- iii) representing the school at outside events (eg the annual Enfield Governors' Conference); and
- iv) attending school church services and assemblies.

The governors also ensure that they continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be effective in their role, attending training courses and studying relevant policy documentation and national guidance. This includes ensuring that they are kept up to date with the latest developments with Ofsted and the Statutory Inspections for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

During the year the governing body also keeps its practices and activities under review, to ensure that it continues to meet its statutory responsibilities and operates effectively, transparently, fairly and legally.

#### Future Plans

The Governors will continue to work closely with the Executive Headteacher, the Head of School and the senior leadership team, to support the implementation of the School Improvement Plan and to strengthen the relationships with St Andrew's church, our other local churches and the wider community.

The Governors are supporting the school in its preparations for the next Ofsted Inspection.

We will also continue to monitor the implementation of the partnership agreement with St Paul's Primary School and will be working with the London Diocesan Board for Schools to ensure that our school remains a safe, effective, supportive place in which children can learn, play and flourish for the future.

#### Contact Us

The governors can be contacted at any time via the school office.

Telephone: 020 8363 5003

Email: [admin@st-andrews-enfield.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-andrews-enfield.enfield.sch.uk)