At the end of each school year, governors reflect on what we have achieved and where we still have work to do.

This has been a crucial year for Trewirgie Infants’ School as OFSTED inspectors paid a visit to our school and judged it as a good school. Leaders, staff and governors worked hard to achieve this outcome. Inspectors said in their report:

**‘Leaders have transformed the school since the previous inspection. They act with unwavering determination to improve the quality of education for pupils. Pupils now follow an ambitious curriculum that interests and excites them. They know that leaders want them to be successful. Pupils try hard to meet leaders’ high expectations. They flourish in the safe and caring environment that leaders provide.’**

They also reported on the work of the governing body:

**‘Governors provide effective support and challenge to school leaders. They check that leaders’ actions have the most impact on the quality of education that pupils receive.’**

The annual impact statement is an important activity for us as a Governing Body as we reflect on the year gone by and make changes and improvements where necessary. This reflection includes feedback from the pupils, staff, governors and from parents. Results are analysed and fed into the new school improvement plan each year. During the recent inspection 93% of parents said that their children were happy at the school. We will be working to find out why the small majority said that they were not.

Working with our headteacher, Cath Callow, the Senior Leadership Team and school staff, the Local Governing Body contribute to all core functions, including, but not limited to:

* Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
* Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school.
* Ensuring the finances of the school are utilised appropriately and managed effectively.

To fulfil these responsibilities there have been six formal meetings this year and these have fed into the TPAT governance structure.  There has also been monitoring in key areas to support the school’s development plan. Governors have been mindful of the pandemic and cost of living crisis and the added pressures this has placed on the school community whilst providing appropriate support and challenge where necessary.

**Context and rationale**

**Last year, the Local Governing Body established the following priorities for the current year:**

* Working with the TPAT Trust Board, the LGB will support and challenge leaders to provide the absolute best educational experiences for the pupils who attend the school, ensuring that all statutory duties and responsibilities are met.
* Hold leaders to account for the standards achieved and a ‘fit for purpose’ curriculum provided for all pupils in all subjects. Including the assessment, and support for catch up following the enforced closures of the school.
* Continue to be part of the school improvement journey that returns the school in all areas to Ofsted ‘good.’
* Working with Trust leaders to ensure that the statutory responsibilities as laid out in ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2022 are met at Trewirgie Infants’ School and children who attend are kept safe and well.
* Working with school leaders to continue to raise the profile of the school within the community, working closely with all stakeholders in an open and transparent manner.
* Placing training and development of the LGB at the heart of this development work to ensure the board’s skills set is working in support of the school .
* Work with members of the LGB on succession planning and growth in membership of the LGB.

**To meet these priorities the Governing Body, have:**

* Met twice each term to discuss operational and strategic issues including school finances with Mrs Callow and senior leaders.
* Undertaken regular monitoring visits to the school that have focused on safeguarding, SEND, pupil premium provision and aspects of the curriculum.
* Met with in person or online with school leaders when the need arises. Our chair meets with Mrs Callow every two to three weeks for a catch up.
* The Governing Body has been strengthened by the introduction of Liam Teague, who is the manager of Redruth Tesco. He brings a wealth of business and finance experience to the LGB.

**Strengths of the Local Governing Body:**

* We are a committed and hard working group of volunteers who give up freely of their time to support and challenge the school.
* We bring a wide range of expertise to the governance table and several of us have worked in schools and one of our team has held senior roles in schools and trusts.
* We challenge school leaders and TPAT to provide the very best experiences for the pupils who attend the school.
* We are helping leaders to manage a reduced budget with many increased costs.

**Areas of Impact within Trewirgie:**

* Our safeguarding governor has had a significant role in supporting school leaders.
* Met with the HMI and inspectors during the school inspection to support leaders and the school.
* Continued with robust monitoring.
* Governors assigned to key monitoring areas and ensured that their monitoring links in with the priorities from the School Improvement Plan.
* Continue to be part of the school improvement journey, providing appropriate challenge and support where necessary.
* Checked that national testing is administered correctly and securely.
* Helped leaders to make necessary reductions to the school budget without compromising the quality of education.

**Priorities for the Local Governing Body for the next year (2023/24) other than our core functions:**

* Consider ways to build on the excellent comments within the school inspection report and to look at ways to make the school even better.
* Challenge school leaders to ensure that pupils make the very best progress from their starting points.
* Consider how to improve lines of communication and consultation with Trewirgie Juniors’ School and the TPAT trust board.
* With school leaders look at ways to reduce our costs and balance a challenging budget.
* Ensure that Governors undertake Continued Personal Development training.
* Governors will continue to monitor the following areas:

Standards and curriculum

Safeguarding.

Inclusion – SEND and disadvantage.

Stakeholders

* Ensure succession planning for the Chair of Governors.

All governors enjoy supporting the leaders and staff of Trewirgie Infants school, and especially meeting the fantastic pupils when we make visits to school. We are looking forward to the next exciting phase of development at our school.

Best wishes,

Mark Lees

Chair of the Local Governing Body.