



Governors Annual Statement 2022-2023

The Department for Education has issued guidance suggesting that Governing Bodies should make an annual statement to parents, so we have prepared this document for your consideration. The Local Governing Body (LGB) at Flax Bourton endeavours to fulfil its role, as detailed below, as part of the Backwell Hub within the Lighthouse Schools Partnership (a Multi Academy Trust, or MAT). The LGB works for the benefits of School's pupils and staff, the School's stakeholders and local community. They work to ensure School's needs are fully met by LSP via regular communication to and from LSP Board.

The Purpose of the Flax Bourton Church of England Primary School Local Governing Body

The LGB hold School to account for achievement of standards, performance and financial value for money. They are advised by the Headteacher / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Vi Fraser LSP School Business Manager (SBM). The LGB is responsible for the performance management of the Headteacher, with the advice and support of relevant senior staff within LSP. The LGB's aim is to achieve and maintain outstanding performance in all aspects of the life of School.

They make recommendations to LSP over recruitment of Appointed Governors and the Diocese of Bath and Wells over the appointment of Foundation Governors.

The LGB are consulted with, by LSP staff, on relevant matters.

The LGB works within the framework provided by Lighthouse Schools Partnership via the Scheme of Delegation.

Changes to Flax Bourton LGB during 2022/23: -

- Four governors retired (one appointed, one parent, one foundation, one staff).
- Two new governors appointed and approved by LSP and Diocese with term due to start in September 2023.
- LGB successfully appointed new head teacher after Jane Bennett resigned after more than 20 years.
- Election of new Vice- Chair and shadow Chair (to replace chair from September 2023).

What were the key issues and challenges in 2022/23?

- Appointing a new head teacher – LGB worked closely with LSP to appoint new head.
- SIAMS inspection with Excellent result awarded with comment that Flax is "overwhelmingly calm and effective school driven by its Christian vision".
- Budget – in particular rising costs of supply, cleaning, and energy.
- Staff stress awaiting Ofsted and SIAMS for over 12 months.
- Ensuring inclusivity.
- Ongoing water leak eventually resolved with huge cost to school averted.

Impact of Governors' actions 2022/23: -

- Knowledge of curriculum increased through Sub Link Govs; Sub Lead presentations at each LGB meeting.
- Vision visible around school; on paperwork; known by all.

- Increased governor visibility e.g., ran tombola stall at Summer Fair; Governor regularly leads worship
- All governors completed training including Safeguarding, GDPR, Cyber-Security, and safer recruitment (four governors)
- School link with Zambia
- Regular subject monitoring and SILP visits by governors.

LGB Priorities 2023/24: -

- Welcoming the new head teacher.
- Ensuring all staff and governors feel valued and part of Flax Team working towards the common goal of providing the best education for all pupils
- Reviewing Vision and Strategy Plan 22/23 and using this to set targets for 23/24 linked to SIP (School Improvement Plan).
- Ensuring Subject Link Governor monitoring role focusses on progress for all pupils across the school, including vulnerable pupils.
- Continuing to monitor the impact of the curriculum across the school, ensuring knowledge and skills build on learning from Reception to Year 6.
- Preparing fully, ensuring LGB knowledge of school is current & “on-hand” in readiness for Ofsted.
- Maintaining Christian distinctiveness and vision.
- Work with LSP on ensuring we have a balanced budget.
- Continue to seek better support for SEND from North Somerset.
- Continue building further links with the local community.
- Replacing retired governors and ensuring all new governors receive requisite training.
- Replacing clerk.