

External Review of Governance for Chilmark and Fonthill Bishop CofE Primary School

The External Review of Governance (ERG) was commissioned by the Chair of Governors of Chilmark and Fonthill Bishop CofE Primary School, following an Ofsted Inspection on 10th and 11th May 2017. The Ofsted inspection team recommended that an ERG should be undertaken in order to assess how the governance aspect of leadership and management might be improved.

This summary brings together recommended actions from the Ofsted report and the ERG. The ERG included assessment against 'Twenty questions every governing body should ask itself' (<http://www.thegovernor.org.uk/freedownloads/20questions/Twenty-questions-second-edition-2015-v2.pdf>) and the FGB will further review this assessment in 2018. Actions relating to questions 2.1 and 2.2 of the assessment have been included in the Ofsted actions.

Ofsted Report – May 2017

Priority for improvement Leadership and Management	Action required (identified through ERG)	By when	By whom	Success Criteria	Notes / progress
<p>Improve the quality of governance so that it provides effective strategic leadership that supports and challenges school leaders and, as a result, improvements happen rapidly.</p>	<p>Deeper scrutiny of data and a range of agreed challenge questions should be used to meet the need to be robust and rigorous.</p> <p>[Make this green?]</p>	<p>Agree the processes for use throughout 2017/18</p>	<p>FGB (training governor)</p>	<p>The Head and Chair are able to delegate areas of work to SLT and governors to identify challenge between senior leaders and governors</p>	<p>An experienced educationalist has been appointed to the governing body, and is leading governors in challenging the data. A new format for data reporting to FGB has been introduced (Nov 17). Greater challenge at Curriculum and Staffing and FGB meetings.</p> <p>Two governors attended Strategic Use of Data training – Nov 17.</p> <p>SER review of data – Mar 18 – several governors attending.</p>
	<p>Governors should identify training providers who will provide a range of sessions to support governance</p>			<p>The GB has accessed training and support to enable a focussed and robust strategic conversation to feel engaged with the future direction of the school and to develop even greater understanding of data</p>	<p>Training has been provided by Wiltshire Governor Services, Southern Academy Trust and cluster schools this term.</p> <p>WISP training Spring 18.</p>

	A facilitated strategic visioning exercise with local stakeholders and governors would enable a greater understanding and ownership of the longer term vision	T1/2	FGB and all stakeholders	All stakeholders are able to create and describe the strategic vision for the school Stakeholder groups are fully engaged with the work of the school The school is identified as a central part of the local community	Links with SIAMS work, Ofsted and academisation. Governor attended 'Vision, Ethos & Strategic Direction' training – Oct 17. Fed back to FGB Nov 17. Strategic planning to take place in T5/6.
Leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that standards continue to rise by planning improvements in teaching with a focus on learning					Governors have asked for subject leaders to feed back to FGB. Governors receive notes of visits from external partners looking at standards Strategic targets for SIP are aspirational – continually pushing for improvements.
Improve the quality of teaching, including in the early years, by ensuring that: – staff and pupils have high expectations – work is monitored more stringently, progress is rapid and expectations are consistent – the most able pupils are led into learning that is sufficiently challenging and deepens their thinking – the confidence and pride of pupils is raised so that they participate fully in their	Reports to the GB should include evidence and data to meet this Ofsted recommendation and governors should monitor and evaluate against this expectation. The Head teacher's and Senior Leader's reports should detail evidence of improvements in relation to these areas of improvement		Named governors / committee and reports to FGB cross referenced to the School Improvement Plan	Governors receive a detailed breakdown of the quality of teaching in relation to the areas of improvement Governors cross reference with SLT and middle leaders and evidence improvements within areas identified in the Ofsted report and detailed in the SDP	Governors attend termly Wiltshire School Effectiveness Review Meetings. Headteacher reports to Chair of Curriculum and Staffing Committee. Internal reports on maths, reading, writing. Pupil Voice visits.

learning, understand their potential, and recognise the importance of accuracy.				Reports and observations record that more able disadvantaged pupils are receiving learning that challenges and deepens their thinking	
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External Review of Governance recommendations – September 2017

Priority for improvement Leadership and Management	Action required	By when (timescales added by KB)	By whom	Notes (KB)
Core Area 1: Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction	Establish a strong strategic vision which is led by the governing body and includes input from a wide range of stakeholders	T5/6 17/18	FGB and MAT	Links with SIAMS work, Ofsted and academisation. Governor attended 'Vision, Ethos & Strategic Direction' training – Oct 17. Fed back to FGB Nov 17. Strategic planning to take place in T5/6.
	Ensure that governors are involved in the production of relevant areas of the SEF and SDP			Governors have shaped the SIAP, particularly the data governor. SER meeting attended by several governors.
	Engage with other governors to identify how effective governance can make a difference to school improvement			Liaison with other SAT Governors. Training attendance.

				<p>A governor has visited another school.</p> <p>Lots of external partners.</p>
Core Area 2: Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils	Access training to cover the use of data, especially ASP, as soon as possible	End T2	FGB	<p>An experienced educationalist has been appointed to the governing body, and is leading governors in challenging the data. A new format for data reporting to FGB has been introduced (Nov 17). Greater challenge at Curriculum and Staffing and FGB meetings.</p> <p>Two governors attended Strategic Use of Data training – Nov 17.</p> <p>Governors attend termly Wiltshire School Effectiveness Review Meetings.</p> <p>A governor has checked targets against the Ofsted report.</p>
	Agree the dates for the HT Performance Management and review			Completed.
	Ensure that staff Performance Management has taken place and that a Pay Panel is in place to hear recommendations from the Headteacher			Completed.

Core Area 3: Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent	Continue to ensure that external funding is used effectively to improve standards			Finance and Premises Committee. Strong financial processes and reporting to FGB. External support from Wilts Council.
Core Area 4: Effective Governance Practice	Continue to agree the governance relationship with the school and school leaders to ensure that governance becomes strategic			
	Explore opportunities to bring the succession of a new Chair forward to enable a planned handover			Completed.
	Governors to develop their questioning skills to enable this to be evidenced by external agencies			New process in place.
	Review current structures and identify support that a MAT may bring to governance			Portfolio roles and training.