

**Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021 for the
Governing Body of
St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary 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 Governing Body of St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School is made up of: 7 Foundation Governors; 2 Parent Governors; 1 LA Governor; 1 Staff Governor; 1 Head Teacher Governor

The Governing Body has programme of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance.

The Full Governing Body meets at least once each term, we also have committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. These committees are:

- Finance Committee
- Staffing Committee
- Admissions Committee
- Ethos Committee
- Pupil Discipline (Exclusions) Committee
- Curriculum Committee

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the Governing Body of governors' attendance at meetings, details of attendance can be found on page 5.

Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made. The overall attendance record of governors has been excellent, and every meeting has been quorate during the school year.

The work we have done on our committees and in the Governing Body meetings

- School budget monitoring/ Financial management
- Pupil Premium /Sports Premium fund monitoring
- Review and update of Statutory Policies
- Review and update of School Policies & Procedures
- Evaluation of Covid 19 Action Plans and Procedure
- Monitoring of Safeguarding audit and procedures.
- Disability Access Plan updated
- Pupil attainment and progress

- Monitoring activities
- Staffing
- Admissions and appeals

Governors visit school to monitor key aspects of the school's development and provide support and challenge to the school. Individual governors have visited the school during the year to monitor a range of different areas, including:- special educational needs; safeguarding; Learning Walks – safety, behaviour and attitudes to learning, ethos walks; book trawls; Link Governors Meeting with Coordinators; Catholic Life.

Overview of the overall impact the Governing Body has had on the school

The Governing Body has held the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils. Analysing attainment and progress of groups of pupils; PP; Gender; ethnicity. To support the accurate analysis of our school's strengths, the current and forthcoming issues we face and what needs to improve next. We continue to evidence good progress across our key groups and have targeted resources to improve areas where progress needs to be improved. Assessment link Governor has a good understanding of ASP. He has an understanding of the new assessment tracker. As a result, the link governor has a deeper understanding of how well the school is doing and where we need to focus.

Curriculum Monitoring: Coordinator Visits – Computing, Design & Technology, Art & Design, Science, English, Assessment. Governors reviewed the curriculum that is been delivered and how assessment is collected and analysed.

We evaluate data from School Tracking System, each term. Analysed School Improvement Partner findings and analysis. Governors review monitoring taken place, considering strengths and areas of development and how these are followed up; ensuring staff are accountable. Governors were interview for the Right Respecting School Silver Award – demonstrating their wide knowledge of the schools' strengths and areas to develop. We have increased our knowledge of the school's successes and challenges by monitoring the SDP targets. Review of children's work couldn't take place this year due to the pandemic. We reviewed the processes put in place for lockdown and the work that staff were setting and marking. Work was differentiated marked twice daily. Progression is seen across the classes. Children are aware of their own targets and know what they need to do to improve. Evidence of close the gap tasks remained evident during lockdown showing the continuous dialogue between adult and pupil and children take ownership of their learning. We have monitored and evaluate the Catholic Life of our school through learning walks, assemblies and school and Parish Masses. An Ethos Walk was also completed monitoring and evaluating the Catholic life of the school. Governors have completed a safety, behaviour and attitudes work,

Finance: The school finances is monitored and evaluated by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee set a budget for 2020/2021. Reviewed Pupil Premium and Sport Premium spending and its impact. Reviewed and selected quotes ensuring quality and value for money.

Monitor H/T performance management with the support of external advisor. External

advice from Birmingham Catholic Primary Partnership ensures a rigorous cycle of performance management for our headteacher focused on achieving the key priorities for our school development.

We have scrutinised policies to ensure statutory requirements are fulfilled. Through link governors we have witnessed the impact of policies and procedures.

Recruitment of staff- reviewing applications, shortlisting and interviews. Ensuring recruitment procedures including safeguarding are closely adhered to.

Catholic Life in the School is planned by Senior Leaders and the Link Governor. Further Governors support Sacrament Masses and celebrations.

Learning Walk – Behaviour, safety, attitudes to learning. As a result, the Safeguarding Governor is aware that children feel safe and attitudes to work and behaviour is very good. The governor has observed the day-to-day life of the school.

Reviewing SEN practices and procedures. As a result, SEND Governor is aware of statutory requirements. She has attending further training. Governor is aware of children who are receiving intervention and its impact. As a result, SEND Governor is more involved in the day-to-day life of the school.

Evaluated Safeguarding procedures including the S175 and H/T Termly reports.

The wide range of information and stakeholder viewpoints collated for the governors in the Headteacher's report and the SDP is accurate and sufficiently detailed to support the accurate analysis of our school's strengths, the current and forthcoming issues we face and what needs to improve next. The impact is a confident evaluation that the work in educating our children is highly effective.

Future plans of the Governing Body

The Governing Body will continue to develop and work towards the longer-term strategy of the school, to closely monitor financial status and progress against plan, working closely with the Headteacher, SLT, staff and parent communities to deliver the best outcomes for our pupils.

Our strategic plan is to continue to improve our monitoring and evaluation; focusing on the support and challenge necessary to narrow and close any identified gaps between groups of our children.

Focus on consistently improving provision and outcomes for all our children.

Continue to challenge and support all of our staff professionally and our children in their personal development, resilience, mental well-being behaviour and safety, particularly online safety.

We will continue to oversee the financial performance of the school, making sure its money is well spent. We will monitor and evaluate the finances to endeavour to set a balanced budget without using the carry forward, in these financially difficult times.

Review and evaluate the spending of Pupil Premium and Sport Premium and its impact. To increase the number of pupils achieving expected and above ARE/Greater Depth in Maths, Reading and Writing at the end of KS 1 & 2. Monitor gaps between groups of learners. Improve attainment/progress in Writing.

Working with senior leaders we will continue to closely analyse data to make sure all pupils make outstanding progress. Where required, re-align the support provided to

give all pupils equal opportunities to succeed and to avoid any possible discrimination.

How to contact your Governing Body

Information about the School's Governing Body is available on the governors' page of the school's website

St Ambrose Barlow School Governing Body – membership

Governor	Category	Term of office expiry date
Mr B O'Driscoll	Foundation Chair	10/2022
Fr Paul Johnson	Foundation	07/2022
Vacancy	Parent	
Mrs S Fayaz	Staff	12/2021
Mrs M Grew	Foundation	10/2022
Mr J Hall	Foundation	12/2022
Mr A Harries	Foundation Vice Chair	08/2022
Mrs K Jenkins	LA	03/2021
Mrs S Cunnane	Parent	10/2021
Mrs M Griffin	Foundation	03/2023
Dr M McMahon	Foundation	10/2022
Mrs Winters	Headteacher	
Ms P James	Clerk	

St Ambrose Barlow School Governors' Attendance record for (Autmun 19 – Summer 20) (x out of y attended

Governor	FGB meetings - x out of y attended	Committee meetings - x out of y attended
Mr B O'Driscoll	3 out of 3	Staffing 1 out of 1 Assessment Link Governor Met with Assessment Coordinator
Mr A Harries	3 out of 3	Finance 3 out of 3 Staffing 1 out of 1 Admissions 2 out of 2 Science Governor met with

		Coordinator
Fr Paul Johnson	0 out of 3	Staffing 0 out of 1 Ethos Committee RE Governor met with Coordinator
Mrs S Fayaz	2 out of 3	Finance 3 out of 3 Admissions 2 out of 2
Mr J Hall	3 out of 3	Ethos and Discipline Ethos Committee Safeguarding Governor met with DSL
Mrs K Jenkins	1 out of 3	Curriculum Committee
Mrs M Griffin	1 out of 3	Literacy Governor Met with Coordinator
Mrs M Grew	2 out of 3	Curriculum Committee SEND Governor met with SENCO
Mrs S Cunnane	3 out of 3	Ethos Committee Curriculum Committee
Dr McMahon	2 out of 3	Computing, DT, Art & Design Governor met with coordinator
Mrs Winters	3 out of 3	Finance 3 out of 3 Staffing 1 out of 1 Admissions 2 out of 2 Ethos
Miss P James (Clerk)	3 out of 3	