



International
School Award
2011-2014



St. Nicholas' Primary School

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Healthy Schools
OXFORDSHIRE



Governors' Annual Report 2012/13

The Governing body of St Nicholas' Primary school oversees the work of the school, assesses the schools' progress and helps set its priorities and vision to provide a high standard of education. The governing body is not responsible for the day-to-day running of the school.

The aim of this report is to advise parents, pupils, staff and members of our community how the Governing Body has been working with the school during 2012/13 to help the school provide the best possible education and experience for our pupils.

.Activities and impact of the Governing Body in 2012/13

School Finance

The governing body is responsible for setting the school's budget along with the school senior leadership team. The budget is allocated according to the Achievement Plan, and is linked to subjects and learning areas. The governors have monitored the spending of the budget regularly and ensured that the school's finances are managed effectively to get the best value for our children. Last year we benchmarked some area of our resources against similar schools.

Learning and assessment

Governors have worked on various committees and have specific specialised link areas. We have attended the school development groups and actively analysed and monitored the progress in each area. Overall achievement and progress of pupils has been monitored at regular intervals during the year thus giving an idea of the pupils' progress. Various intervention programmes have benefited our pupils, for further information see www.stnicholasprimaryschool.org.uk/school_info/pupil_premium.

Strategic Involvement

Governors, along with the Headteacher and senior teachers develop the school priorities and identify the areas of improvement. Policies were reviewed and any changes along with the new legislations have been implemented. This year successful recruitment and induction of deputy Headteacher has made the school's senior leadership team much stronger, governors were also involved in recruiting key teaching positions in the school.

Premises and Health and Safety

The final phase of the school expansion was completed within the timescale and governors have communicated this to all involved on a regular basis. The new staff room has improved the facilities for the staff and the children are benefiting from the additional resources. The school achieved 'outstanding' for this year's health and safety audit. In addition to this, governors have ensured improvements and maintained various areas of the school. Income generated through hiring school premises has been reinvested in improvements.

Parents meetings to discuss Academy status

We held a special meeting to discuss with parents and staff, whether St Nicholas school should consider becoming an academy. The meeting was well attended and this led to a parent's forum being formed. At this stage the school has decided that it should not convert to an academy and agreed to continue monitoring the issue.

Links with the community

Governors have worked with the neighbours, county council, community police officers, parents and the local community to regulate the issue of parking at the beginning and end of the day. We support visits from parents, authors, local residents and faith members etc. to participate in school activities, to enrich the learning of our children. The school has excellent links with the local preschools, children's centres, libraries, church etc. We now have a link governor to the CIRB (Communication Resource Base).

Communicating to pupils, parents, staff, parents and others

For the first time, a regular Governors Newsletter was sent last year, this allowed us to inform all about the working of the governing body and the activities.

We meet parents at coffee mornings, FOSNS meetings and at the school playground in the morning and attend many events.

The governors meet with staff at meetings, in classrooms, events and during link visits. Some governors help in the school.

We sometimes have lunch with the children, accompany on school trips and often hear from children when they write to us.

In addition to this we do formal consultations through questionnaire, RAISE group meeting, Eco councils and school council.

This year we have updated the school website with new information and we will continue to do so.

We welcome your feedback, please contact us directly in person or by email to governors@st-nicholas-oxf.oxnmail.net

Our pupils have made good progress this year, the focus for the Governing Body is to build on this and improve further to achieve 'good' Ofsted results. In addition we will also be focusing on school meals, monitoring of the overall progress of the school, developing the vision for the coming year. We thank you for your ongoing support.