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GOVERNORS' ANNUAL STATEMENT 2024-2025

Welcome to the Governors' annual statement for academic year 2024-2025. This statement is for the information of parents and carers and sets out what the governors intend to do in support of the school for this academic year.

PURPOSE OF THE MARY ELTON SCHOOL LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Local Governance Committees (LGC's) are established by Futura Learning Partnership for each of its schools. The LGC fulfils the following functions on behalf of the trustees of Futura:

• **Monitor Standards** – to be assured pupils are achieving their best.

• **Assure the quality of the pupil, parent and staff experience** – a place where pupils want to learn, and staff want to work.

• **Support and encourage community engagement** – a school at the heart of the community.

The LGC's work is directed by the Trust's Scheme of Delegation and LGC Terms of Reference. There should be between 8 and 12 governors for optimum effectiveness and appointments are made with a view to ensuring the right balance of skills, knowledge and experience to operated effectively and match the character and ethos of the school.

The Headteacher, Tom Newell and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Tom, Hannah Alderson (Deputy Head) and David Hartshorn (SENDCo) attend and contribute to LGC meetings, along with topic leads as and when required.

The aim is to help staff to achieve and maintain outstanding performance in all aspects of the life of the school. Relevant data and information is made available by the school for governors at their termly meetings, along with written and verbal presentations, followed by question-and-answer sessions with the Headteacher, SLT and other staff, e.g. subject leads. This enables governors to challenge and support the Headteacher and the school. Governors can benchmark school data against similar schools in the Local Authority, and schools nationally, to ensure the schools' standards and expectations are high, and that plans are in place to continue to develop the pupils, ensuring the impact of teaching is closely monitored.

The governors' attendance record is in the Local Governance Committee section of the school website and is updated annually.

MARY ELTON LGC COMPOSITION

The LGC consists of:

- Headteacher
- 2 x staff governors
- 3 x parent governors
- 2 x appointed community governors
- The LGC is supported by a Clerk who is appointed to help the LGC in their work.

We are currently recruiting for a Chair; Hadley Rides is the Vice Chair.

Futura Learning Partnership is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07746787. The registered office is at Chandag Road, Keynsham, Bristol. BS31 1PH

We are aiming for 10 governor positions to be filled on the LGC to provide a breadth of skills and invite applications from the community. The current list of governors and their focus areas can be found on the school website. If you would like to discuss the opportunity of becoming a community governor, then please contact the Clerk via email at clerktothegovernors@maryeltonschool.org.uk.

REVIEW OF MARY ELTON LGC IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24

- Our Headteacher, Dean Hudd, was absent at the end of the academic year due to ill health.
- Hannah Alderson, a new DHT was appointed on a 2-year secondment to lead on Curriculum and T&L, from Sept 2023.
- Tom Newell was appointed as Interim Headteacher in October 2023. Tom was confirmed as permanent Headteacher with effect from 29th February 2024.
- We had several governor appointments and resignations: Clare Pole resigned as a staff governor in September 2023; Ross McKechan resigned as a community governor in September 2023; Dean Hudd resigned as Headteacher in October 2023; Zoe Taylor resigned as a community governor January 2024; Claire Blackford joined as a community governor January 2024; John Reeve's Term of Office ended June 2024; Caroline Moss resigned as Chair July 2024; Charley Clarke resigned as staff governor in July 2024.
- Thank you to all those that served on the LGC during the year, especially Caroline Moss during a time of profound change and our Ofsted Inspection.
- A special mention to John Reeve for his two terms of office and support to the new leadership team.

OFSTED INSPECTION- March 2024

We were delighted to be rated as GOOD in all areas; a full copy of the report is available on the website.

The areas for improvement identified have been included in the School Improvement Plan 2024/2025 (see below).

GOVERNOR PRIORITIES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

Our LGC priorities for this year are to provide a stable and strong governing body that will help the school to continue to ensure that all pupils become the best they can be, whatever their ability and skill. Governors will be 'critical friends' to the senior leadership team and teaching staff, conducting monitoring visits throughout the academic year to monitor that the key priorities in the School Improvement Plan (SIP - which can be found on the school website) are being progressed and that defined actions are being carried out to achieve the success criteria that have been set.

School Improvement Plan Key Priorities 2024/2025

1. To ensure the % of boys reaching EXS+ in the three core subjects exceeds 85% in each year group, with at least 25% at greater depth standard.
2. To ensure effective provision is in place for all children with SEND, particularly those with more complex needs, leading to improved outcomes as a result of progress being in line with their non-SEND peers.
3. To develop subject expertise and leadership in all areas so that pupil's knowledge is deepened leading to an additional 10% of pupils achieving Greater Depth in all three core subjects.
4. To reduce, by 50%, the number of disadvantaged pupils who are persistently absent (attendance is below 90%).

The role of the LGC is to be supportive and challenging, however our priority is also to ensure that approach ensures that their wellbeing is a golden thread through all that we do.

We have organised ourselves to be aligned to key governor roles as defined in the Terms of Reference as follows:

Pupil Premium, Sports Premium and Attendance: Claire Blackford

Special Educational Needs and Looked After Children: Karina Eccles

Safeguarding, Health and Safety: Hadley Rides

School Community: Clare Greenway

Ensuring that every child is kept safe and nurtured is a key priority for Mary Elton School and the LGC will be robust in our safeguarding monitoring to ensure this is the case. As detailed above, we would like to recruit an additional community governors to fill vacancies and manage the workload of the LGC to ensure we are as effective as possible.