

Horndean Technology College

The 2014/2015 Academic Year

Annual Statement from the Governors

The DfE recommends that it is good practice for the Governing Body of all schools to publish an annual governance statement to explain how it has fulfilled its responsibilities in relation to its core functions. These core functions are set out in summary in the DfE "Handbook for Governors 2015" as:

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, and the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In order to fulfill its responsibilities the Governors of Horndean Technology College operate the following structure:

The Full Governing Body (FGB) meets twice a term to deal mainly with issues around the strategic direction of the College. However, a substantial part of the work is managed through committees. There are 4 main committees. They are:

- a. Staffing and Development.
- b. Curriculum and Achievement.
- c. Finance and Site.
- d. Joint Management Committee.

All Committees meet twice a term and report to the Full Governing Body. Meetings of all these committees are timed to allow the minutes of these meetings and key items to be considered at the next Full Governing Body meeting.

In addition to these four committees the Governors have a number of other committees/panels that meet as the need arises to consider for example Complaints, Pupil Discipline, and Dismissals/Appeals.

The Staffing and Development Committee is responsible for all Pay and Performance matters. There is also a separate IT Strategy Group as well as Designated Lead Governors for Training, Inclusion, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, and Parent Forum.

The Joint Management Committee has responsibility for the Community Dimension of the College including the Childcare Dimension Unit.

Minutes of all Full Governing Body meetings can be viewed in hard copy at the College office. The list of Governors for 2014/15 is at Annex A below together with the attendance list for FGB meetings at Annex B.

The majority of Hampshire Schools were required to re-constitute their Governing Bodies by 1 September 2015 to comply with The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012. The College re-constituted its Governing Body in February 2015.

The College is a UNICEF Rights Respecting School. Article 29 (Goals of Education) "Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment". Governors are fully supportive of this initiative and of the College's goal of achieving a higher level of accreditation in this scheme in 2015. The College has been re-designated as an International School from 2014-2017 and is now the lead for other Hampshire schools seeking to achieve this award.

In the Academic Year 2014/5 Governors consider that the impact of their contribution to the three core responsibilities (above) are as follows:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. We have reviewed and re-affirmed the College vision and purpose (as we do annually).

We have contributed to the annual evaluation of the College Development Plan and re-set the College's three year Strategic Development Plan.

We continue to receive and challenged the Leadership Team Departmental Quality Assurance reports.

We continue to support the Pupil Premium Co-ordinator role, extra staffing in English and Maths to enable additional support for these core subjects as well as Lead Practitioner posts in DSEN and Science.

There have been a number of matters which following consultation through the Parent Forum, Student Voice, and Parent Surveys there have been changes for example, a revised Mobile Phone Policy for students, a new College Uniform Policy which will be introduced from the start of the 2015/2016 academic year, the implementation of a new VLE called Firefly and a refurbished Library and Learning Centre.

Governors have fully supported the College in a number of successful accreditation awards in 2014/2015, for example Stonewall recognition, recognition as an expert centre for Global Learning, Investors in Careers Stage 2 Accreditation, and most notably the first school in the United Kingdom to achieve AcSeed accreditation for the College's work to support students' emotional wellbeing.

2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.

Effective relationships between Governors and their Link Departments were developed during the year involving a consistent strategy requiring Governors to meet to discuss departmental development priorities, and monitor progress against their targets within the overall College Development Plan. This will have made a contribution to the improved outcomes for students.

Governors have kept ourselves informed about College, local and national developments by receiving presentations during the academic year about Ofsted preparation, Attendance, Literacy, Teaching and Learning, Tracking pupil progress, the use of Pupil Premium, and the establishment of an Autistic Spectrum Disorder Unit (ASD Unit). This has allowed us to make better informed strategic decisions.

Members of the governing body have individually attended training courses to develop their own skills as Governors and to be kept informed on all policy development in Education relating to Governorship.

Nearly all College events, whether they are open evenings, parents' evenings, concerts or drama productions have had at least one Governor in attendance. This is in response to one of the Governing Body's priorities to be more accessible and engage with College stakeholders.

Overall, 2015 showed that the College achieved its best Year 11 results ever, being 64% 5A*-C in English and Mathematics with a Progress 8 measure of 0.16. Expected progress in 2015 was above national averages in both English and Mathematics and Value Added was significantly positive.

3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governors responsible for Pay and Performance Management have all received training regarding their responsibilities regarding Appraisal and Pay Progression requirements. An approved policy is in place. Governor input has contributed to a balanced budget for 2014/2015 as well as for the 2015/16 financial year. Governors are able to report a sound financial position with the current three year financial plan, which details financial stability that is endorsed by the LA finance team.

ANNEX A

GOVERNING BODY STRUCTURE - SEPTEMBER 2014-15

Name	Category	Role
Mr Bob Bedford	Community Co-opted	Chair of Governors Chair of Staffing and Development Committee Chair Joint Management Committee Governors' Local Forum Representative Inclusion Governor
Mr Trevor Blakeley	Authority Local Authority	Vice-Chair of Governors Vice-Chair of Staffing and Development Committee
Mrs Julie Summerfield	Staff Headteacher	Headteacher
Mrs Clare Hancock*	Authority	Chair of Finance and Site Committee Health and Safety Governor Safeguarding Governor Safer Recruitment Governor
Mr Russell McDermott*	Authority	Chair of Curriculum and Achievement Committee Parent Forum Representative
Mr Mike Taylor*	Authority	Chair of Joint Management Committee Inclusion Governor
Mr Jonathan Adey	Parent Co-opted	
Dr Sally Beken	Parent Co-opted	
Mrs Barbara Gauntlett*	Parent Co-opted	
Mr Stephen Harding*	Parent	Chair of Finance and Site Committee
Mr James Law*	Parent	Training Liaison Governor
Mrs Gwen Woodruffe	Parent	Parent Forum Representative
Mr Phil Gibbs	Community Co-opted	Chair of Curriculum and Achievement Committee Vice-Chair of Curriculum and Achievement Committee
Mr Andrew Little	Community Co-opted	
Mrs Tricia Roberts*	Community	Chair of Curriculum and Achievement Committee Safer Recruitment Governor
Mr Gavin Roberts	Co-opted	
Miss Sarah Craig	Staff Co-opted	Health and Safety Governor Safeguarding Governor
Mr Aaron Edney	Staff Co-opted	
Mr Callum Larkin**	Co-opted	
Mr Daniel Chapman**	Co-opted	
Mr William Morris**	Co-opted	

Mrs Hilary J Pickles	Clerk	
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*Resigned/Term of Office Expired

**Appointed July 2015

ANNEX B

FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETINGS - ATTENDANCE 2014-15

Name	18.09.14	12.11.14	04.02.15	17.03.15	13.05.15	08.07.15
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Bob Bedford (Chair)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Trevor Blakeley (Vice-Chair)	AP	Y	AP	Y	AP	Y
Julie Summerfield (HT)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Clare Hancock	Y	Y	R	R	R	R
Mike Taylor	AP	AP	AP	R	R	R
Jonathan Adey	Y	AP	Y	Y	AP	Y
Sally Beken	Y	AP	Y	AP	AP	AP
Gavin Roberts	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Kate Trippick	N	N	N	Y	Y	AP
Stephen Harding	Y	AP	AP	Y	R	R
James Law	Y	AP	R	R	R	R
Russell McDermott	AP	R	R	R	R	R
Gwen Woodruffe	Y	Y	AP	Y	AP	Y
Barbara Gauntlett	Y	Y	AP	R	R	R
Phil Gibbs	AP	Y	Y	AP	Y	AP
Andrew Little	Y	Y	AP	Y	Y	AP
Callum Larkin	N	N	N	N	N	AP
Trish Roberts	Y	R	R	R	R	R
Sarah Craig	Y	AP	Y	Y	Y	Y
Aaron Edney	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Layla Funnell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hilary Pickles (Clerk)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Key:

Y Attended
AP Absent with apologies
AB Absent without apologies
N Not a governor at this meeting
R Resigned or term ended prior to this meeting

Note relating to both Annexes: Not all governors were on the Governing Body for the whole academic year as their terms may have ended or they may have resigned. Governor categories changed as a result of reconstitution in February 2015.