

GRASMERE ACADEMY GOVERNING BODY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019/20

CONTEXT

Grasmere Academy is a company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 5 July 2012. The Governors (who are Trustees under the Charities Act 2011 and Directors under the Companies Act 2006) annually publish a report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the Charitable Company.

The Governing body operates in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association, as well as within a broader legal and regulatory framework, adhering to, for example, its Funding Agreement with the Department for Education and the Education, Skills and Funding Agency's Academies Financial Handbook.

The Academy has a detailed system of delegation of responsibilities which is agreed annually by the full Governing body. It has an approved Code of Conduct and Standing Orders as well as terms of reference for its committees.

The Governing body has three core strategic functions as follows:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school, its pupils and staff;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE

Governing body

The Governing body of Grasmere Academy is made up of the following:

- 3 Co-opted Governors
- 3 Community Governors
- 3 Founding Governors
- The Headteacher
- 1 Local Authority Governor
- 3 Parent Governors
- 1 Staff Governor

A list of Governors and their roles is attached as Appendix 1 of this report. Meetings are held twice per term with additional meetings if required.

Committees

There are three sub committees which consider different aspects of the school:

- Finance, Staffing & Premises (which meets twice termly)
- Ethos and Health & Safety (which meets termly)
- Quality (which meets termly)

Each Committee has detailed terms of reference which are reviewed annually. The Committees list for 2019/20 is attached as Appendix 2.

There are also Committees that meet as and when required during the academic year:

- Admissions
- Pupil/Staff Discipline
- Performance Management
- Appeals

Attendance Record of Governors

Meetings have to be attended by a minimum number of governors to ensure that decisions are legally binding. The Governors' attendance record for 2019/20 is attached as Appendix 3.

EFFECTIVENESS

For the first half of the academic year the Governing body focused on improving governance and continuing school improvement. In March 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in the school's closure to all but vulnerable pupils and those of key workers and the Governing body focused on key business decisions only. More pupils returned to school in June 2020 as per DfE guidelines.

In the Autumn and early part of the Spring term governors continued to work through their Self Evaluation Action Plan, adopted the National Governance Association's latest Code of Conduct and carried out a skills audit, with the results used to help identify the right skills and expertise required on the Governing body.

The Headteacher continued her Executive Headship role with responsibility for both Grasmere Academy and Stephenson Memorial Primary School. Both schools found the joint Quality Committee meetings beneficial in terms of agreeing their Development Plans, Pupil Premium Strategies and sharing of good practice.

From March 2020 Governors met virtually using Zoom and suspended all committees bar the Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee. Governing body meeting agendas focused on monitoring the school's risk assessment and essential control measures, the health and well-being of pupils and staff, plans for remote learning for those pupils not at school, implementation of the free school meals voucher scheme, ensuring safeguarding compliance and return to school implementation plans.

**GRASMERE ACADEMY
GOVERNING BODY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019/20**

GOVERNOR	CATEGORY
Lynn Goossens	Community
Luke Donockley	Community
David Richardson	Community
Joanne McKeown	Co-opted
Carole Nunn	Co-opted
David Baldwin	Founding
David Hodgson	Founding
Kerry Lilico	Headteacher
Kevin Burns	Local Authority
*Sarah Higgins	Parent
Jackie Lackenby	Parent
Louisa Stevenson	Parent
Hannah Girvan	Staff

*S Higgins resigned on 01/03/20

One Community Governor vacancy all academic year

**GRASMERE ACADEMY
COMMITTEES LIST FOR 2019/20**

Finance, Staffing & Premises David Richardson (Community) Chair David Hodgson (Founding) Lynn Goossens (Community) Kerry Lilico (Headteacher) Hannah Girvan (Staff) <i>(NB: Staff Governors to withdraw for pay and appraisal issues)</i>	Joint Quality with SMPS Lynn Goossens (Community) David Baldwin (Founding) Kevin Burns (Local Authority) Jackie Lackenby (Parent) Carole Nunn (Co-opted) Kerry Lilico (Headteacher)
Ethos and Health & Safety Hannah Girvan (Staff) Kerry Lilico (Headteacher) Louisa Stevenson (Parent) Luke Donockley (Community) Carole Nunn (Co-opted) Jackie Lackenby (Parent)	Performance Management Lynn Goossens (Community) David Richardson (Community) David Hodgson (Founding)
Pupil Discipline David Hodgson (Founding) Lynn Goossens (Community) Plus 1 x Governor <i>(NB: Headteacher can't be a member and other members should withdraw if they have an interest to declare)</i>	Admissions Lynn Goossens (Community) David Hodgson (Founding) Kerry Lilico (Headteacher)

APPENDIX 3

GRASMERE ACADEMY GOVERNING BODY ATTENDANCE REGISTER FOR 2019/20

Governor	Category	GB mtgs	FS&P Com	Ethos Com	Joint Quality Com
Lynn Goossens	Community	6/7	6/6		2/2
Luke Donockley	Community	3/7			
David Richardson	Community	7/7	4/6		
Joanne McKeown	Co-opted	4/7			
Carole Nunn	Co-opted	3/7		0/1	
David Hodgson	Founding	6/7	5/6		
David Baldwin	Founding	6/7			2/2
Kerry Lilico	Headteacher	6/7	6/6	1/1	2/2
Kevin Burns	Local Authority	5/7			1/2
Louisa Stevenson	Parent	5/7		1/1	
*Sarah Higgins	Parent	0/3			
Jackie Lackenby	Parent	2/7			
Hannah Girvan	Staff	7/7	6/6	1/1	

*S Higgins resigned on 01/03/20