

2022-2023



PARK STREET
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Governance Report

On behalf of the Governors, I hope that you are enjoying the good weather and looking forward to a summer break.

It has been a very busy year for the school. We spent the early part of the year ensuring that we were ready for an Ofsted inspection, but it came a little earlier than expected. I was actually in Japan when it was announced, so had some frantic moments ensuring that Vice-chair, Andrew and Head, Sarah, had easy access to everything that they might need. Having flown back and come straight from the plane into the final meeting of the inspection, it was clear that everyone involved in the school had done a magnificent job, and we had also had a phenomenal response to the parent survey, so many thanks for this. Maintaining our GOOD rating after previous years' interruptions and under a new inspection framework was a great achievement, and the report outlined many very positive messages.

Having been inspected, some of the pressure has been taken off, and teaching staff can concentrate on improvements in learning. It has been great to see that classes have been able to take advantage of the many learning opportunities provided in the local area, as well as being able to put on both Nativity and Shakespeare plays to appreciative audiences.

Thanks must also go out to those who have supported the road closure outside of the school, and given up their time both in organising it and making sure the barriers are controlled. This has made the drop-offs and pick-ups much safer. We are also very grateful to volunteers who help with escorting classes on away-days, swimming and much more.

Nigel Moorhouse, Chair of Governors.

What do Governors do?

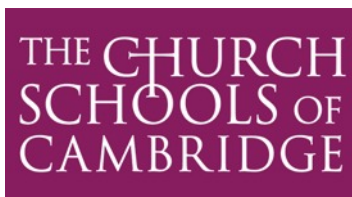
The day-to-day operations of the school are under the remit of the school leadership team, led by the Headteacher. Governors take a *strategic* overview of the school and monitor school performance.

Our governors have three defined roles:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Our school is also a **voluntary-aided school**. This means that a foundation or trust (in our case Church Schools of Cambridge) owns the buildings, inputs a small proportion of the capital costs for the school and whose appointments must form a majority on the school's governing body. Our governing body is the employer for the staff and sets admissions criteria.

CSoC



Church Schools of Cambridge provides facilities and targeted support to four Church of England primary schools in Cambridge – St Luke's, St Paul's, St Philip's and Park Street. It provides additional targeted funding for specific school projects, along with making other relevant grants to the wider community of Cambridge and providing a range of RE-related workshops and resources.

In previous years, they have offered teaching support for catch-up, as well as supporting capital costs of the school.

Diocese

The Diocese of Ely Education Directorate provides leadership, support and guidance in the Christian ethos, to enable a strong sense of community through learning, love and leadership for our children and families, of all faiths and none.

Our Christian vision is the rock on which our values stand, enabling all children to flourish.

Life in all its fullness

"I have come so you may have life in all its fullness." John 10:10



LEA



The Local Education Authority is Cambridgeshire County Council, whose role includes providing accessible advice and support for things like staff training and development and all aspects of the curriculum including special educational needs.

The LEA also advises on things like school management, behaviour management, the development of school policies and liaison with other community bodies.

They also distribute the funding for the school from the Department for Education (DfE).

Our school also employs the LEA to support admissions, raise standards, and other services.

Vision, ethos and strategy

The vision and ethos of the school is informed by the Church of England's Vision for Education (2016), which is deeply Christian, with Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness' at its heart. In line with the Church of England's role as the established Church, their vision is for the common good of the whole community.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

- Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills: enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.
- Educating for hope and aspiration: enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.
- Educating for community and living well together: a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.
- Educating for dignity and respect: the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.

Vision

Our **vision** has been developed based on the Parable of the Mustard Seed

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches.

[Mark 4. 30-32, Matthew 13. 31-32, Luke 13. 18-19]

Park Street C of E Primary School is a small school that has a large effect on those who come here. We teach and we learn that small deeds and individual beings can have large and consequential effects on the world in which we live. The mustard seed of Park Street grows to become a sustaining, protecting and invigorating environment for all who 'lodge' here, before they travel onwards, taking all they have learned and experienced with them.



Ethos

As a Church of England school, we aim:

- to be a safe, supportive and caring school which provides a nurturing environment for every member of the community;
- to offer a breadth of opportunity to enable each child to fulfil their potential;
- to be inclusive, celebrating the strengths and differences of our diverse community;
- to have high aspirations for our children, inspiring creativity and a lifelong love of learning.

Values

Our values were chosen by our children:



Strategy

In the last year, the focus has been in the following areas:

- **Recovery & Wellbeing:** This has involved both academic and social wellbeing. Recovery from Covid has gone well, and our local authority has had good things to say about our school, and often used us as an exemplar. Our recent Ofsted report recognised this. There are still challenges which are a legacy of lockdowns, but the school is looking to address these through a number of wellbeing programmes.
- **Promotion:** Pupil numbers have remained steady, which has ensured that our funding levels from Government are not dropping, as has happened at some other local schools. We need to ensure that we do whatever we can to promote the school. Since our catchment contains very few children, we rely on out-of-catchment applications to maintain numbers, and thus, funding.
- **Christian Distinctiveness:** The school has worked to roll out the 'mustard seed' Vision across the school, and there have been many improvements in Christian Distinctiveness
- **Outside Learning Opportunities:** The number of educational trips outside of the school has increased (from pre-Covid), which has provided some great learning opportunities. There has also been an increase in options for after-school provision.

Educational Performance

Our staff have worked very hard over the last year or two in looking to improve educational performance while also getting ready for our Ofsted inspection.

Our external assessments this year have been excellent, which is a tribute to our staff, and to the school leadership in navigating through the interrupted learning over Covid times, and beyond.

Comparisons (in brackets) are national averages for 2022, but some are still to 2019 national averages, as these are the last published details.

2022 was the first time that there was a mandatory multiplication tables check for Year 4.

KS2

% reaching expected standard

Reading	93%	(74%)
Writing	80%	(69%)
Mathematics	100%	(71%)
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	100%	(72%)
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths	80%	(59%)

% reaching greater depth (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading	27%	(27%)
Writing	7%	(20%)
Mathematics	40%	(27%)
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	40%	(36%)
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths	7%	(11%)

KS1

% reaching expected standard (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading	76%	(75%)
Writing	82%	(69%)
Mathematics	88%	(76%)

% reaching greater depth (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading	24%	(25%)
Writing	18%	(15%)
Mathematics	18%	(22%)

Y1

% that achieved the threshold 32/40 to pass the Phonic Screening test: 89% (82%)

EYFS

% Reaching Good Level of Development: 72% (71%)

Multiplication Tables Check

Average Score out of 25: 21.9 (20)

School Finances

Last Year

The previous financial year (to Apr 2023) ended well, with the school managing to avoid an in-year deficit, thanks to better than expected numbers of pupils and good financial management.

Item	Budgeted	Actual
Total Income	£749,820	£796,593
Total Expenditure	£796,660	£774,056
Revenue Balance this Year	-£46,840	£22,537
Revenue Balance brought Forward	£55,612	£55,612
Revenue Balance carried forward	£8,772	£78,149

This Year

As always, the forthcoming year will be challenging, as inflation is high, meaning many supplies are significantly more expensive. In addition, staff pay has also increased, but this has not been matched by increases in funding from Government. Luckily, we can use our revenue carried forward to help minimise the effects of these increases.

We are also trying to ensure that we can maintain additional teaching staff, which has been invaluable in supporting KS2 out of the pandemic and beyond, and helping reduce teacher workload. We have been fortunate to receive some funding from Church Schools of Cambridge to support RE, which also involves us helping out our sister Church Schools.

We would also like to thank those parents who have been providing support for school meals funding, as the money we receive from the Government for 'free' school meals is way under the actual cost of providing the meals.

Next Year and Beyond

Future years are looking OK with the school being full, but we still need to carefully manage our budget, as inflation and pay deals are hardly ever matched by central funding.

Small schools are also quite disadvantaged in the current political climate. Headline-grabbing increases in school funding do not necessarily filter down to our school, and Cambridgeshire remains one of the councils with the lowest level of funding per pupil.

Hellos and Goodbyes

We would like to say a big thank you to Fleur McLennan, Ben Powell and Jon Sanders, who stepped down from the governing body in the last 12 months.

Laura Oxley was elected as parent governor to replace Fleur. We look forward to her contribution.

Governor Info

For further information on who our governors are, and general governance information, visit our page on the school's website at: <https://parkstreet.cambs.sch.uk/governors/>