



2021



PARK STREET
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Governance Report

On behalf of the Governors, I'd like to wish you all a Happy Christmas, and, to welcome all those who have joined our community in September. Ordinarily, there'd be the opportunity speak to new parents and carers at the beginning of the year, but, as with many things, Covid has curtailed opportunities for getting to know people face-to-face.

As governors, we have had an 'interesting' year or two, to say the least. Like everyone, we have had to get to grips with new technology, supporting the school to allow online learning, and liaising with local health teams to keep the school safe.

Since getting back to relative normality this term, the school has been busy assessing pupils to pick up any gaps in learning from the splintered nature of last year's schooling. Those who need help are being assisted by tutors. The assessments have shown that the pupils have, on the whole, managed to continue their expected academic progress. This impressive outcome has also been noted by our external assessors.

We would like to send out a big thank you, to parents and carers for your excellent support in ensuring your children continued their learning, and to our fantastic staff for taking on the mantle of the difficult mixture of online and in-school learning.

Thank you also for your vigilance and care in looking for Covid signs. Together, we have managed the term with few cases, unlike other local schools where half of classes are off. As we face another wave of uncertainty, with your help, we hope to maintain this record.

Nigel Moorhouse, Chair of Governors.

What do Governors do?

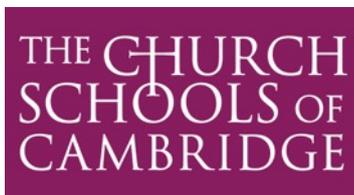
The day-to-day operations of the school are under the remit of the school leadership team, led by the Headteacher. Governors take a *strategic* overview of the school and monitor school performance.

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 the last year, they have funded laptops for disadvantaged pupils in lockdown and additional teaching support for catch-up, as well as supporting capital costs of the school.

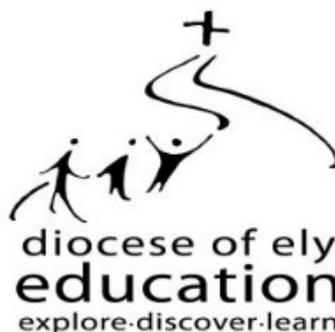
Diocese

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:** This has involved both academic and social wellbeing, The results highlighted in the introduction show excellent progress with Covid recovery, and the school will continue with this throughout the next year.
- **Promotion:** Since numbers of pupils in a small school are the key factor in determining funding, and consequent quality of education, our parents and carers generously helped to promote the school through an excellent film about the school. This, together with virtual open days (a community effort by the Headteacher, PTA and Governors), has meant that we are not only full this year, but have a waiting list.
- **Christian Distinctiveness:** Throughout the year, the school has had many improvements in its Christian Distinctiveness, with new displays (including a lovely new mural in the KS2 playground) and innovative forms of collective worship. This will continue for the present year.
- **Early Years:** The new Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework is now in place, and the required initial assessments of new pupils have taken place.

This academic year, in addition to the ongoing improvements above, there will be further focus on **pupil wellbeing**, with the introduction of a parallel curriculum, "Healthy Me, Healthy Mind, Healthy World". We are also looking at **staff wellbeing** and ways of decreasing and managing staff workload.

Educational Performance

Firstly, we would like to welcome the new members of staff this term. We have already been hearing good things from the children.

The interrupted nature of the last few years has meant that there have been no statutory assessments in the school (e.g. SATS) and this year, there will be SATS, but there are no league tables being published.

The strategic focus on outcomes has been with writing, which has seen a great improvement compared to the last published results. In addition, there has been a lot of work on the curriculum, with full details on this having been published on the school website, and Learning Journeys being available on Teams.

Therefore our performance has been measured by a mixture of internal assessments with external moderation, and external assessments. Results of these are below:

KS2

% reaching expected standard (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading 86% (73%)
Writing 85% (78%)
Mathematics 79% (75%)
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling 85% (78%)
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths 70% (65%)

% reaching greater depth (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading 43% (27%)
Writing 15% (20%)
Mathematics 29% (27%)
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling 30% (36%)
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths 7% (11%)

KS1

% reaching expected standard (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading 75% (75%)
Writing 75% (69%)
Mathematics 80% (76%)

% reaching greater depth (national 2019 in brackets)

Reading 35% (25%)
Writing 30% (15%)
Mathematics 25% (22%)

Y1

% that achieved the threshold 32/40 to pass the Phonic Screening test: 79%

EYFS

% Reaching Good Level of Development: 57%

The last year has also seen the introduction of new curricula for:

- Religious Education (RE)
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)
- Relationships Education (RSE)

Each of these has been supported by the Ely Diocese, and guided by our ethos and values as an inclusive church school.

School Finances

Last Year

The previous financial year (to Apr 2021) ended well, with the school keeping within budget and carrying forward sufficient reserves.

Item	Budgeted	Actual
Total Income	£631,482	£646,197
Total Expenditure	£650,684	£642,409
Revenue Balance this Year	-£19,202	£3,688
Revenue Balance brought Forward	£78,631	£78,631
Revenue Balance carried forward	£59,429	£82,319

This Year

The forthcoming year will be more challenging, as, mainly due to Covid, pupil numbers in the census in October 2020 dropped significantly. The amount of money the school receives from April 2021 is directly related to pupil numbers in the previous October census.

Therefore, this financial year, a budget has been set which will use up a good proportion of the revenue balance, but still leave sufficient contingencies for future years. This is to ensure that the current pupils are not disadvantaged, and has been approved by the Governing Body and Local Authority, as the revenue balance is there for exactly this kind of scenario.

We would also like to thank everyone for the largely positive response to our letter about school meals funding. This year, numbers taking school meals have been excellent, which has meant that the school has needed to subsidise meals less than assumed. This means there is more money available for educational materials.

Next Year and Beyond

Future years are looking brighter with the school being full, but we still need to carefully manage our budget.

Small schools are 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 Debbie Hayden and Paul Nicholson, who stepped down from the governing body in the last 12 months. Debbie did a fantastic job as Staff Governor, and Paul will be missed for his financial expertise.

Katherine Shankland has been elected as Staff Governor, a role which she has done previously, and we are looking forward to her contribution. We are also looking forward to welcoming some new Foundation Governors appointed by the Diocese of Ely.