

Governors' Report to Parents and Carers October 2015

I'm pleased to introduce this first report on the work of the governing body this year.

Full Governing Body

We welcomed Dan Percy and Rob Marshall as prospective new governors to observe our meeting in September when we were pleased to be able to congratulate the staff team on achieving good pupil progress results across the school last year. We noted that future OFSTED inspections will place the greatest emphasis on the progress current pupils are making.

The governing body approved an updated school strategic plan spanning 2015 -17 and endorsed shorter term plans detailing the improvement actions to be taken over a 10 week period. The school's senior leaders are required to report the impact of these actions to governors at the end of each 10 week period.

We also finalised the first annual governance statement summarising our work during the year and providing details of governors' attendance at meetings. The statement for 2014 -15 has now been completed and will soon be posted to the parents' section of the school's website. Paper copies can be obtained from the school office.

Performance and Standards Committee

At the first meeting of the new academic year the Performance and Standards committee emphasised the need to support and challenge the senior leaders of the school. The essential purpose of the committee is to ensure that all Holbrook pupils make good progress in their education and ensure that staff are held accountable for that progress.

We discussed how the school is using data from the end of last year to prioritise any areas of relative underachievement. A report on the way the pupil premium funding supports higher attainment was presented and discussed. In addition we discussed and agreed the plans for improving Personal Development and Behaviour, Science and the Foundation subjects.

Ways in which Governors can be further involved with aspects of school life were also discussed. The safeguarding of children is an absolute priority and we sought assurances that the school is following agreed procedures for the appointment of new staff.

I will provide you with a further update on the work of the governing body at the end of next term.

Margaret Hunt

Chair of Governors