

High Ercall Primary School
Governors' Annual Report to Parents
Summer 2018
High Expectations, High Ercall

Welcome to High Ercall Primary School.

We are fortunate to have a Governing Body with a variety of skills and experience to support our school community. As a team we carry out a wide range of responsibilities for the benefit of the children, parents/carers, staff and the wider community.

The last twelve months have been an incredibly busy time for the school and the Governing Body. In October we received our long awaited OFSTED Inspection and we were once again judged to be a good school.

The report acknowledges that the school has made significant improvements since our previous inspection in 2012. The inspector, Steve Cartlidge, agreed with the judgement of the Head Teacher and the Governing Body that this is a **good school with many outstanding features**.

In his report the inspector made the following comments regarding Governance.

'Governors are effective in their role. The chair of governors and finance governor met with me during the inspection. They showed their strong sense of commitment to, and support for the school. They are knowledgeable and fully up to date with national changes in education. They are clear about school priorities and progress made towards meeting them.'

'Governors ask probing questions to ensure that safeguarding is effective.'

'Through their reviews of the school's work, governors hold leaders to account for how well the school is meeting pupils' needs.'

What have been our successes this year?

75% of pupils achieved a Good Level of Development in Early Years compared to 70% nationally.

90% of pupils passed the Year 1 Phonics test. compared to 81% nationally.

KS1

End of Key Stage 1 data shows:

76% of pupils attained age related expectations in reading – same as national.
82% of pupils attained age related expectations in writing compared to 68% nationally.
76% of pupils attained age related expectations in maths – same as national.

KS2

End of Key Stage 2 data shows:

100% of pupils attained age related expectations in reading compared to 71 nationally.

91% of pupils attained age related expectations in writing compared to 76% nationally.

100 % of pupils attained age related expectations in maths compared to 75% nationally.

95% of pupils attained age related expectations in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) compared to 77% nationally.

91% of pupils attained age related expectations in reading, writing and maths combined compared to 61% nationally.

We achieved our school attendance target of 96.8%.

We continue to offer a wide and rich curriculum with a focus on learning through experience and giving the children a breadth of opportunities.

We have a thriving Breakfast Club. Children are able to eat a healthy breakfast and play with their friends in a calm environment for the start of the day.

After school, we continue to offer the children a wide range of extra-curricular coach led activities including football, Tennis, Gymnastics and Musical Theatre. We then offer our own 'Chill Club' which can run until 6.00pm if parents require. A range of activities is available for the children, including using the school grounds and outside areas. Children have represented the school in a number of competitive events including, football, athletics, archery, cross country and orienteering.

Throughout the year the children have enjoyed a number of curriculum enrichment visits and we have hosted many visitors into the school.

How did we as governors help the school?

We hold two full Governing Body meetings a term and all governors are involved in monitoring school improvement through regular visits to the school. These visits enable us to meet with the school leaders, observe the work of the school and interview staff and children.

In addition to these meetings we also have additional committees which meet during the term and a number of named governors with specific responsibilities.

Membership of committees / attendance and named Governors information can be found on our website.

There are four main strands to the work of a governing Body.

1. Setting the vision and strategic direction of the school.

Each term the Head Teacher and Chair meet to review and set direction for the key priorities in school. We consider data, monitoring and views of the stakeholders to determine actions and set Governor Review questions for the coming term. All Governors and staff are fully briefed on the strengths and key areas for development.

2: Holding the Head Teacher to account

Governors are fully aware of what the school does well and together with staff we contribute and identify the next steps for development through the school development plan and head teacher appraisal targets. The Performance Management committee meet with the Head Teacher each term to hold the Head Teacher to account for progress towards these targets.

The Head Teacher produces a termly report to the governing body which details the attainment and achievement of pupils, the quality of teaching and curriculum offer. This data is evaluated by the governing body and compared to data from external agencies.

3. Ensuring statutory duties are met and priorities approved

We ensure that all key compliance requirements are reviewed and approved and that all statutory policies, procedures and information are up to date.

The School website is checked on a termly basis to ensure that is up to date and complies with regulations.

Governors have given particular regard to the new statutory guidance on 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.

The head teacher meets each term with the named Safeguarding governor.

Safeguarding is high on our agenda and all new staff receive prompt training.

We ensure that we have a strong and balanced curriculum which promotes British values.

4: Ensuring financial resources are well spent

The Core Committee which meets every term monitors the school budget and ensures that spending is in line with the 'best value' ethos and is linked to the school development plan

We use the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) to ensure that our budget is spent effectively, allowing the school to optimise resources and thus raise standards and attainment for our pupils.

We ensure that a rigorous performance management system is in place which links high quality teaching to pay awards.

We have ensured that the Pupil Premium Funding has been directed to the targeted children. We have evaluated the plan for 2016/17 and produced a plan for 2017/2018 which is on our website.

Governors have monitored the additional sports funding.

Ensuring that financial resources are well spent has been our biggest challenge of the year. As with other schools our budget has reduced in real terms and we have spent many hours addressing what changes we can make to streamline our spending whilst ensuring that the impact to the children is minimal.

What next – Ongoing and future areas of Involvement

Academic Excellence – Whilst our overall aim is to ensure that our statutory data is in line with national data the intent is that all children will make the best possible progress.

Building Mindfulness – We aim to develop social and learning resilience in pupils, equip children with the tools to develop mindfulness and to increase opportunities for independence in learning.

Provision for the Future – We aim to ensure the financial viability of the school. We will look to raise the profile of the school in the local media and we will work with the provider of the Nursery to establish good quality holiday provision.