



**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of  
Blackburn The Redeemer Church of England Primary School  
School Year 17-18**

***Mission Statement***

**“Believing, loving, caring, sharing, Everyone growing in the Light of Christ.”**

**Role of the Governing Board**

The role of the governing board in a local authority maintained school is set out in education law, namely to ‘conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement’. The board also has a legal responsibility to promote pupil wellbeing. It does this by:

**Setting Strategic Direction**

- Ensuring clarity of vision and ethos
- Engaging with stakeholders
- Making sure statutory duties are met.

**Creating Robust Accountability**

- Accountability for teaching, achievement, behaviour and safety
- Strengthening and supporting school leadership
- Performance managing the Headteacher

- Contributing to school self-evaluation.

**Ensuring Financial Probity**

- Making sure the school’s money is well spent
- Monitoring the use of the Pupil Premium grant and other resources to overcome barriers to learning.

**Governance Arrangements**

The Governing Board is made up as follows:

Name	Governor Type	Start Date	Term of Office Expiry Date
Mrs. Carol Officer (Chair)	Foundation	11 Nov 2012	10 Nov 2020
Councillor Denise Gee(Vice Chair)	Local Authority	01 Sep 2015	30 Aug 2019
Mrs. Lisa Cowell	Foundation	18 Dec 2017	17 Dec 2021
Mr. Philip Beresford	Foundation	11 Nov 2016	10 Nov 2020
Mr. Graham Barnes	Foundation	01 Oct 2010	03 Oct 2022
Mrs. Charlotte Carter	Foundation	23/04/2015	22/04/2019
Mr. Geoffrey Hutchinson	Foundation	20 Jul 2015	19 Jul 2019
Rev Richard Marshall	Ex-Officio		n/a
Revd. Christopher Anderton	Ex-Officio		n/a
Mrs. Rebecca Crompton	Parent	20 Apr 2018	19 Apr 2022
Mrs. Gill Boyle	Parent	16 Oct 2018	15 Oct 2022
Mrs. Helen Earnshaw	Parent	09 Dec 2015	08 Dec 2019
Mrs. Alison Taylor (Headteacher)	Staff		n/a
Miss Jennifer Allen	Staff	15 May 2018	14 May 2022

The full Governing Board meets once per term and Governors also meet at least termly as committees to consider various aspects of the school in detail. At School we currently have the following committees:

**Teaching and Learning Committee and Resources Committee.**

The Redeemer School Governors' Meetings all begin at **6:30pm** on a Wednesday unless specified.

Meetings	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Teaching and Learning Sub-Committee	27.9.17 Presentation by Mark Gill and James re data/SEN/PP	31.1.18 Presentation by Humanities Subject Leaders	16.5.18 Presentation by PHSE Lead
Resources Sub-Committee	4.10.17	7.2.18	11.4.18
Admissions Committee		7.3.18	
Full Governing Body	22.11.17 Governors Short Communion service 6:00pm- (please note earlier start time) Followed by Full Governors' Meeting in school	14.3.18	27.6.18 Start at 6:00pm for end of year buffet! (please note earlier start time)
Subject Lead Governors to meet with subject leaders		10.1.18 3:30-6:30	

Governors also have links to subjects and have visited school on an agreed plan to meet subject leaders, in addition to monitoring specific aspects of the curriculum or areas such as SEND and safeguarding. All subject lead governors prepare a report which is considered by the Teaching and Learning Committee as part of the School Improvement monitoring and planning cycle.

There are also committees that meet, if required, to consider pupil discipline, staffing appeals and complaints. A list of Governors, their terms of office and positions of responsibility is published on the school website **and** can be accessed by clicking here

<http://www.theredeemercep.co.uk/the-governors/>

### Governors' Attendance Record

Governing boards make decisions collectively, though they may choose to delegate responsibility to committees, or individuals (including the Headteacher). Attending Governing Board meetings is an essential part of a governor's role and the attendance record for the governors of our school is good. This ensures that all governors receive the necessary information all at the same time and therefore important and informed decisions can be made as and when necessary on all aspects of the school, staff and pupils. The attendance record for all governors is published on the school website

Y = Attended, N = Apologies Accepted, NA = Apologies not Accepted, NS = No Apologies sent

Governor	Governor Type	27 Sep 2017	04 Oct 2017	22 Nov 2017	22 Nov 2017	31 Jan 2018	07 Feb 2018	07 Mar 2018	14 Mar 2018	11 Apr 2018	16 May 2018	27 Jun 2018
		Teaching & Learning	Resources	Full governing board	Pay & Headteacher Performance	Teaching & Learning	Resources	Admissions	Full governing board	Resources	Teaching & Learning	Full governing board
Miss Jennifer Allen	Staff										Y	Y
Revd. Christopher Anderton	Foundation Ex-Officio	Y		Y		N			Y		Y	N
Mrs. Alison Ashworth Taylor	Headteacher	Y	N	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mr. Graham Barnes	Foundation		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y

Mr. Philip Beresford	Foundation		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y		Y
Mrs. Charlotte Carter	Foundation										Y	Y
Mrs. Lisa Cowell	Foundation					Y			Y		Y	N
Mrs. Rebecca Crompton	Parent										Y	Y
Margaret Duncan	Other	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
Mrs. Helen Earnshaw	Parent	Y		Y		Y			N		Y	Y
Cllr Denise Gee	Authority	Y		Y		Y			Y		Y	Y
Yvonne Holden			N	N			N		N			
Mr. Geoffrey Hutchinson	Foundation		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y		Y
Stuart Jackson			NS	N								
Mrs. Debbie Jagger		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y
Revd. Richard Marshall	Foundation Ex-Officio	Y		Y		Y			Y		Y	Y
Mr. Dean Murray			Y	Y	Y							
Mrs. Carol Officer	Foundation	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N		Y
Mark Power	Other	Y	Y				Y		Y	Y		Y
Margaret Prescott												Y
Gill Ross		Y		Y		Y			Y			
Mr. Paul Schofield			N	Y			Y		N	Y		

## VISION, MISSION, VALUES, AIMS

In summer 2018 the Governing Board revisited the mission statement and in a vibrant, prayerfully lead workshop, identified values and strategic aims which would lead all aspects of school improvement from 2018-2021. The values and strategic aims are as follows:

“Friendship, Compassion, Forgiveness, Wisdom, Thankfulness, Hope, rooted firmly in Agape, Love. “

Our Strategic Aims for 2018-2021

### • **Friendship (John 15v12-14)**

• To develop friendships, welcoming supporting and loving each other, celebrating the gifts and talents of all.

### • **Compassion( 1 Peter 3v8)**

• To inspire children to show compassion for others in school and for those in the local and global communities.

### • **Forgiveness (Colossians 3v13)**

• To foster a community where all can learn to give and to receive forgiveness.

### • **Wisdom (Proverbs 22:6)**

• To teach our children to face challenges, developing empathy, resilience and self-confidence, whilst ensuring access to a deep and rich curriculum.

### • **Thankfulness (Colossians 2v6-7)**

• To teach all members of our school community to be thankful for all that God has given us: the physical world, our human potential and our spiritual calling.

• To encourage all to be thankful by caring for all God has given us and developing our gifts and talents to their full potential.

### • **Hope (Ephesians 1v18)**

• To develop an awareness that hope, based on God’s love for all through Christ, is where confidence and a positive self-image, peace of mind and purpose in life can be found.

**Assessment and Impact of the Governing Board during 2017-18 School Year**  
**The Governing Board and Committees have dealt with the following issues over the school year 17-18.**

**Full Governing Board**  
**Autumn Term**

**Ensured that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school**

scrutinised the previous meeting's minutes

scrutinised committee minutes

reviewed the safeguarding policy and undertaken safeguarding training with particular reference being made to online bullying

reviewed and adopted policies and procedures as per policy tracker

Reviewed and agreed action on Academisation update

**Ensured that the head teacher was performing her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school**

looked at data of achievement and progress for pupils as presented in the headteacher's report

agreed to support headteacher with key priorities for 2017/18

**Clarity around roles and responsibilities**

election of Chair and Vice Chair

reviewed the structure and membership of the committees

Identified roles as appropriate for the school and appointed governors to these roles.

Agreed to update governor training through analysis of skills audit when completed

**Ensured the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources**

scrutinised minutes of resources committee

ensured financial stability going forward by agreeing to extend collaboration with St Stephen's Tockholes

**Spring Term**

A review of Governor skills was undertaken with the outcome showing that there was a good spread of skills across Governors

A full review of the allocation of members to the various committees and allocation of subject responsibility was undertaken, to match the appropriate Governor's skill set

Governors evaluated the progress of the implementation of the school development plan

Governors approved the School Financial Value Standard for submittal to the local authority

Governors considered the impact of the upcoming General Data Protection Regulations and appointed a Governor to have an oversight of the actions being taken by the school to meet those regulations

The headteacher confirmed that the website was compliant, updated half termly and checked regularly.

### **Summer Term**

Governors had scrutinised the minutes and approved them subject to two amendments  
Had sought clarification from Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education regarding the wording on the Church attendance document for admissions  
Looked at holiday pattern for 2019/20 and considered proposed pattern from LA and alternatively staying open during holy week  
Agreed and adopted policies approved by committees  
Formally adopted the budget (Option 3) as agreed at the resources committee  
Received a report from Mrs. Carol Officer on work undertaken in school regarding child protection and safeguarding  
The Child Protection/safeguarding governor stated that her visit had confirmed that there was effective management in place and that the school continued to look at ways to building on that.

### **Resources Committee**

The governors discussed their contribution and effectiveness as a committee and agreed the following:

#### **Autumn Term**

Agreed budget changes including additional spending of £26,000 having resolved that this was not detrimental to teaching/pupils  
Reviewed and agreed current year's budget to ensure the school to minimise impact on school reserves in order to avoid future clawback.  
Agreed the adoption of policies for a further year as per policy tracker  
Accepted new GDPR having looked at the impact this would have on the school  
Discussed and agreed new committee terms of reference  
Scrutinised the minutes of the previous meeting  
Reviewed and discussed building works to get best value  
Agreed personnel changes

#### **Spring Term**

Reviewed update of risk assessments and emergency plan  
Allocated funds for health safety projects to promote pupil safety in school  
Reviewed Financial policies and audits to ensure fiscal propriety, including review of independent audit of school funds  
Agreed SLA for GDPR support as best value.  
Reviewed school asset plan in respect of current, future and completed building works

#### **Summer Term**

Agreed school budget for recommendation at summer term FGB  
Agreed SLAs as best value  
Noted toolkit and checklist for head teacher recruitment  
Received and agreed policy and procedure updates for 2017/18  
Agreed DFC project for new flooring and new classroom computers  
Requested a re-organisation plan to ensure least impact on children from staffing changes going forward

### **Teaching and Learning Committee**

The governors discussed their contribution and effectiveness as a committee and agreed the following:

#### **Autumn Term**

Reviewed and noted the school data as presented  
Reviewed SEND data and questioned the SEND lead on what support and strategies were in place to support SEND Children.  
Looked at the SIP and set a baseline to follow up where plan has been executed.  
Looked at creative ways of involving parents in their child's progress and attainment  
Looked at PP data to ensure funding is being spent appropriately and discussed issues with online applications for FSM  
Reviewed and adopted policies and procedures as per the policy tracker  
Noted changes to data protection policy  
Reviewed Sport premium spending and agreed to combine with PTFA to fund new playground markings

#### **Spring Term**

Reviewed and noted data by looking at achievement and progress of pupils.  
Challenged headteacher by questioning disparity between Pira and Puma tests and teacher assessments  
Promoted pupil wellbeing by reviewing pupil welfare policies and directed headteacher to look further into Anti-bullying policy in light of LGBT C of E Document 'Valuing All God's Children'  
Monitored school improvement by reviewing and ensuring SIP was progressing as planned  
Review of Humanities Curriculum - Following the presentation from the humanities team the Teaching and Learning Committee understood and were able to articulate answers to the questions detailed on page 11 of the SIP

#### **Summer Term**

Discussed PSHE and link to school improvement priorities  
Data scrutiny – termly progress and attendance, including action taken in relation to persistent absence  
Policy reviews and updates  
Efficacy of governor visits to school  
Improved understanding of the impact of sports funding  
Noted future discussion regarding promoting healthy eating  
Practical impact of GDPR  
Discussed school to school support skills that Headteacher used to assist in other local schools  
Reviewed impact of changes to requirements for LAC and post-LAC

**Future Plans for Continuous Improvement**

1. The Board to recruit a new headteacher in light of retirement of current headteacher
2. The Board to review SIP in light of strategic aims and values
3. The Board to prepare for SIAMS inspection

**Agreed by the Governing Board on:** .....

**Signed by the Chair:** .....

