

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School.
For the 2015/2016 academic year.**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School Governing Body are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**
- 2. Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent**

Governance arrangements

The governing Body of Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School was reconstituted on the 10th March 2015 and consists of:

- Parent Governors (3)
- LA Governor (1)
- Foundation (2)
- Staff Governors (2)
- Co-opted Governors (4)

The governing body has a programme of half-termly meetings throughout the school year.

Full Governing Body Meetings for 2016/17

Autumn Term	Time
6 th October 2016	6pm
22 nd November 2016	6pm
Spring Term	Time
9 th February 2017	6pm
13 th March 2017	6pm
Summer Term	Time
11 th May 2017	6pm
22 nd June 2017	6pm

Each meeting will cover:

- Procedural issues
- School Improvement
- Resources
- Other Business

Agendas will be designed and agreed in partnership with the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and Clerk.

Once approved, the minutes will be placed on the school website.

In addition the school has two committees:

Finance: which meets termly and reports to the Full Governing Body.

School Improvement: which meets termly and reports to the Full Governing Body.

As part of the collaboration with Richmond Methodist Primary School, there is a Joint Collaboration Committee, with membership from each school and meets on a termly basis.

Attendance record of governors

The clerk keeps a record on behalf of the governing body, of governors' attendance at meetings, details of attendance can be found on page 4 of this document.

Full Governing Body Meetings need to be 'quorate' (50%) to ensure that decisions can be made.

The work we have done on our committees and in the governing body meetings

Approved minutes of the Governing Body have been available on the school's website since September 2016.

Governor involvement in the school

The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the School Development Plan and specific issues. These visits are considered a valuable opportunity for governors to work closely with staff members, and has ensured that governors have an accurate picture about the performance of the school and can support and drive forward school improvement as well as evaluate both current school policies and practice.

Governors regularly attend school open evenings, assemblies, presentations and information evenings including sports and musical events in order to engage with parents and seek their feedback. Furthermore, they actively seek opportunities for our children to be ambassadors for the school both within our community and further afield.

Data analysis

Data is made available to governors through Governing Body meetings with verbal and written presentations followed by question and answer sessions with the head teacher and Deputy Headteacher.

Policies

Governors review all relevant policies on a scheduled basis to ensure that all guidance is current, relevant and up to date. Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department for Education mandatory policy list.

Financial management

The governing body has established a Finance Committee which reviews the budget through regular monitoring reports prepared in partnership with the NYCC Senior Finance Adviser. The governors work with school staff to achieve 'The Schools Financial Value Standard and Assurance' (SFVS) on an annual basis.

The impact of the governors' role in the school ensures that the budget is well managed and improvements are effective and continuous.

Safeguarding

Governors take responsibility for ensuring that safeguarding arrangements meet current statutory requirements, and it is a standing item on the Governing Body agenda.

They evaluate and review the annual safeguarding audit.

Strategic Planning for the future

Governors work co-operatively with the head teacher and senior leaders in the writing and monitoring of the School Development Plan (SDP). The SDP details aims for the forthcoming year and is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SDP lays out clear strategies and tasks, details who is responsible for carrying these out and the resources required. Monitoring procedures and tasks for the governing body are also included.

The main priorities for school development in 2015-2016 were:

1. English – Writing, phonics, spelling, punctuation and grammar
2. Ensure that Teaching and Learning is Outstanding throughout the school
3. To develop the use of assessment to support teacher judgments and to monitor progress

The main priorities for school development in 2016-2017 are:

1. All children make good progress and attain to their standards in writing
2. All children make good progress and attain to their ability in mathematics
3. To ensure that the progress and attainment of vulnerable children and those with SEN is consistent across all age groups and all subjects.
4. To develop teachers to become accountable for improving the quality of Teaching and Learning.

How to contact your governing body

Information about the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website. The Chair of Governors can also be contacted via the school admin team as follows:

Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School,
Arkengarthdale,
Richmond
North Yorkshire
DL 11 6EN

Tel: 01748 884 335

The Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School Governing Body – membership for 2015/16.

Governor	Category	Term of office expiry date
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Mrs Sarah Kettlewell Mrs Jill Lundberg Mr Douglas Barningham	Parent Governors (3)	24/05/2017 10/09/2017 (resigned 30 June 2016) 10/09/2017
Mr David Williams	LA Governor (1)	31/12/2019
Miss Helen Ring (Headteacher) Mrs Anna Brown	Staff Governors (2)	Not Applicable 31/03/2019 (resigned 31 st August 2016)
Revd. Caroline Hewlett Mr John Sparke	Foundation Governor(2)	01/09/2019 tbc
Mr Nick Barron Mrs Sue Ellis Vacancy Vacancy	Co-opted Governors (4)	30/08/2017 06/08/2019

The Arkengarthdale Church of England Primary School Governors' Attendance record for 2015-2016 (%)

Name of Governor	Category	Responsibility	Attendance at FGB	Comments
Charles Cody	Co-opted	Chair of FGB Finance Committee	67%	Absence consented to.
David Williams	Local Authority	Chair of Finance Committee	100%	
Mark Allison	Staff	Headteacher	50%	Retired from 31 st December 2015.
Helen Ring	Staff	Headteacher	100%	Appointed from the 1 st January 2016
Anna Brown	Staff		50%	Absence consented to resigned from 1 st September 2016
Nick Barron	Co-opted	School Improvement Committee	100%	
Sue Ellis	Co-opted	Health and Safety Link Governor	67%	Absence consented to.
Vacancy (2)	Co-opted			

Sarah Kettlewell	Parent	Safeguarding Link Governor School Improvement Committee Sustainability Committee	83%	Absence consented to.
Douglas Barningham	Parent	Finance Committee	83%	Absence consented to.
Jill Lundberg	Parent	Vice Chair Chair of School Improvement Committee.	100%	Resigned from July 2016.
Revd. Caroline Hewlett	Foundation	SEND Link Governor	83%	Absence consented to
John Sparke	Foundation	Finance Committee	83%	Absence consented to.