

Governors update - summer 2023

Emma Smithen - Chair of Governors



I was appointed as Chair of Governors in September 2022. Since that time, I have been very busy attending meetings that support the school development. I have been liaising with the rest of the board offering any support that may be required and keeping UpToDate with their visits.

As you will see from the below updates our Governors have been very strategic and kept the school development plan and safeguarding at the forefront of their minds.

I am very pleased to announce our newly elected Parent Governors are **John Gregory** and **Gemma Bryan**. Mrs Bryan and Mr Gregory have already attended Governor meetings and playing an important part in the makeup of the Governor board.

Sara Reid - Vice Chair Governors and curriculum link Governor



As Link Governor for the school curriculum, I met with Acting Deputy head teacher, Mr Palmer, during the summer term to review the new curriculum. The curriculum is tailored to the needs of the students at St Hugh's school and create new and relevant learning opportunities for their needs.

Mr Palmer gave me an overview of how the curriculum was being monitored from observations and learning walks, monitoring EHCP outcomes to using student voice to understand how the students felt and how they thought things could be improved.

It appears that much training of staff has gone on to ensure clear understanding of what the aims and expectations are of the new curriculum and to support staff in delivery. Mr Palmer reported it was now embedded and school are monitoring its implementation and successes.

My meeting highlighted areas of success within the curriculum including the new creative art lesson and the sensory input across the whole school. Through the assessing and monitoring systems the data shows a significant jump in the attainment of EHCP outcomes – a very positive move forward for all of the students.

I will be back in school during the autumn term and experience some of the newer lessons and hear what the staff and students think of the new curriculum.

Katrina Pawlyszyn – Safeguarding link Governor



In the spring term I attended school in the spring term to review the safeguarding processes and procedures. I can confirm that all checks are thorough and robust in terms of safeguarding the school population.

Through discussion with the responsible school staff, it was apparent that they are both proficient in their role and following all necessary guidelines as expected in terms of staff and visitor checks. Staff may only start work in the school once all necessary checks are completed and in agreement with the Headteacher.

An inspection of a number of random staff was conducted in order to test the process and check the quality of the system. All were satisfactory and all steps / measures were covered.



CPOMs is an electronic recording system that all staff can access to log safeguarding concerns (as well as a number of other key school areas). It is a system that a number of schools in the authority have adopted and provides a chronologic / historic record of a student. My review of this system highlighted staff were proficient at picking up and following up on key issues related to specific students as per their statement of need.

It was also reassuring to witness the open, transparent communication between multi-agencies and the information being fed back to key professionals involved in a timely manner.

During this summer term I am currently undertaking summer term safeguarding checks and will look at any priorities linked to my role as Safeguarding Link Governor.

Sharon Watson – Wellbeing link Governor



I officially became a Governor in the summer of 2022 and began reading past minutes and any other information I could glean as to what was expected of me.

The Governors role is nothing if not varied, from working with the board on the strategical plan to run the school, to supporting the welfare of staff and students to joining in school-based activities.

I have had the joy of being invited to the Christmas concert. Where I got to practise my Makaton signing with classes as they performed and also had the privilege of interviewing all Year 10 students for a mock job Interview to prepare them for their work experience as well as meeting parents on the door at the Easter Fayre.

I have reviewed staff questionnaires and worked with the well-being team to support them in making St Hugh's a more harmonious place to work and have also had to meet the challenges of several compliance meetings to ensure that both staff and the school operations are inline with legislation.

Most of all though, it is totally humbling to work with so many passionate adults, driven to providing the best education and care for each and every student within in St Hugh's. Huge thanks must go to every single person who has worked with more of the last year to take me on this incredible journey.

Andrea Keating – Governor training and careers link Governor



I have recently become the link Governor for careers, and I am working in collaboration with the careers lead at school to get UpToDate and ensure that we are meeting our statutory requirements.

As Governor training link I have an oversight of the training and ensure all Governors keep up to date with mandatory training including Safeguarding and Prevent.

Dr Rachel Brunt – Attendance link Governor



As attendance link Governor I have met with the Acting Head teacher and the responsible staff members for attendance. I have looked at the school policy and ensure that I am asking the appropriate questions to ensure the school are: -

- Promoting good attendance and reducing absence, including persistent absence
- Ensuring every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled
- Acting early to address patterns or absence.

Stephanie Clarkson – Chair of School resource

I started my career at North Lincolnshire Council back in 2012 and have since been heavily involved in Education starting in general administration and now moving on to Finance at Delta Academies Trust. I have worked in both Primary and Secondary settings and have often been asked to go to other schools to offer support and guidance.