WEST HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Annual Statement from the Governors

We are approaching the end of another extraordinary year. Thankfully, life appears to be returning to normal which is an enormous relief for everyone. Having said that, we acknowledge that, in the future, we have to live with this virus but it seems to be under control and the outlook is brighter than it has been.

The Governors have continued to work with school leaders for the benefit of the whole school community, especially the children. Their education, safety, emotional well-being and development has always been a priority for Governors. This will continue. Governors have carried out their role in contributing to the work of the school by ensuring high standards of achievement for all children have been assured by:

Upholding the school’s vision, ethos and strategic direction.

Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of all children.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring monies are well spent.

The Governors work during Committee Meetings has addressed these aspects thoroughly with rigour and determination. We all want the best for the children and continue to agree challenging targets for all concerned. The leadership shown by the Headteacher, other senior leaders and all staff members has been exemplary. Communication has been excellent and remote learning opportunities were both challenging and fun. The ethos of West Heath Primary School came across in the remote learning opportunities which we were delighted to see. The school is committed to ensuring that all children receive the highest levels of education where teaching enables them to make consistently good or better progress. Governors have monitored this aspect closely and will continue to do so. It is fair to say that during the exceptionally disruptive time over the last year, some aspects of pupil progress suffered. However, Governors fully support school plans for a ‘catch-up’ programme which we are confident will support the learning process effectively.

Governors have adapted to a different way of working, Zoom and Teams have supported this. We are, however, looking forward to meeting in school as soon as Mrs Hooper decides it is appropriate. We have had a few changes on the Governing Board and there are some Governors who have never met face-to-face with others.

Our main news is very exciting! We have been awarded Governor Mark. This is a national accreditation and we are so, so proud to be successful with our application. The team work we have developed over several years really helped during the assessment process. The whole process was very hard work but definitely worth it in the end!

Future Plans for the Governors:

To continue to work as an effective team to support and challenge the school. To continue to support school with maintaining the excellent ethos it enjoys. To continue to support school to extend the excellent reputation it has established. To review the performance of all Governors as part of the self-review process for improvement.

All Governors send their very best wishes to Year 6 pupils as they move on to new schools. They have been a credit to West Heath Primary School and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer! Frances Millett. Chair of Governors. July 2021.