

November 2018

Governors Impact Statement

Academic Year 2017-18

During the last academic year there have been many changes at St Matthew's. We were extremely fortunate that Miss Worthington took on the caretaker role of Acting Headteacher from September 2017 until Easter 2018. We are truly grateful to her and our school was certainly in safe hands.

Governors took an active role in the appointment of our new Headteacher, Miss Ritchie, who took up post in April 2018. We are delighted with this appointment and are enjoying working with and supporting her as she leads our school onwards and upwards.

The Board of Governors has also seen a significant number of changes. We have welcomed two parent governors, two church governors, one local authority governor and the Headteacher. This represents half of the board being new to their role but already we have seen interest and enthusiasm from these new members. They have diverse skills and expertise which will create a positive impact for us. They are all keen to undertake training and take on active role in school.

Governors will become even more visible in school, having been assigned to different year groups and encouraged to visit them whenever they can by arrangement with the class teacher. Governors have volunteered to keep watchful eye on curriculum items, meet with subject leaders and all are expected to attend the Termly Action Plan joint meeting with the teaching staff.

Governors are strongly encouraged to attend courses to improve their skills, this showed an increase in the last year. There is focus on succession planning from members of the board and there are now qualified 'chairs' in place on both committees which is a positive step for the future.

Governors are becoming more actively involved, not just attending meetings but taking learning walks during the day. This enables us to admire the amazing learning environment, attractive displays which can only improve the relationship between children, staff and governors. Miss Ritchie encourages governors to see St Matthew's C of E Primary School in action.

In order to keep us on the right path, governors completed a questionnaire on the role of 'chair' and the feedback was positive and encouraging. I also met with individual governors in July 2018 to discuss their annual review. They outlined their successes, concerns and the impact they felt they had had. This was the first time I had met with each governor and it was a worthwhile experience which I hope to repeat next year.

Cluster meetings continue to be well attended by our governors. Also the chair and partnership governors attend termly meetings led by the local authority representatives giving opportunity to receive current information on both local and national issues which is then shared with all governors. We continue to support activities in and out of school and are kept well informed with a diary of forthcoming events.

We are all stakeholders in St Matthew's C of E Primary School, sharing ideas and our vision can be seen around school and in action. We have a new Headteacher who is visible on a daily basis. Governors intend to follow her lead and be known by children and staff continuing to make a positive impact for the future of our school.

Pauline Stott
Chair of Governors

HEADTEACHER – Miss K Ritchie

ST. MATTHEW'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL, Kentford Road, Bolton, BL1 2JL

T 01204 333005 E office@st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk W www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk