

Dunn Street Primary School

Annual Governors' Report

2015-16

The Governing Board of Dunn Street Primary School works with the Head Teacher to promote and maintain high standards of educational achievement. The core functions of the Governing Board are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance of staff and;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school, and making sure its money is well spent.

Key issues that have faced the Governing Board during 2015-16

- Review of the structure of the instrument of the Governing Body.
- New Governors to induct
- Safeguarding of all children
- Staff recruitment
- Familiarisation of new Assessment, Reporting and Accountability Standards
- Familiarisation of Ofsted Leadership Judgements.
- Development and resourcing of the National Curriculum.
- Governing Body training to develop overall effectiveness.
- Local Authority and school Review of Standards.
- Holding the Senior Leadership Team to account.
- Evaluating their own influence in supporting the school.

Assessment of the impact of the Governing Board on the school during 2015-16

The Governing Body has responded well to the challenges faced from the key issues above.

Successful recruitment to the Governing Body has taken place. New Governors are now securely inducted into the Governing Body from increasingly different backgrounds. A full review of sub-committees and designation of link governor responsibilities has taken place. The long standing Chair of Governors remains in place and has attended many Governor training courses to disseminate information to the wider governing body who have in turn committed themselves to taking part in further training.

- Safeguarding and Safety continues to be regarded as the Governors single most important duty. Policies and practices are reviewed on a regular basis and Governors are aware of the schools newer initiatives with regards to this (Kidsafe/ TootToot/ Operation Encompass/ E safety shows and lessons). They insist that staff undergo training to the correct level and have taken part in updated Prevent training as have the complete staff of the school. Senior appointing Governors have attended or are due to attend Safer Recruitment training over the Year, and rigorously check that newly appointed staff are fully vetted for their suitability to work in our school. The Governor responsible for site safety completes regular site tours with the school caretaker to identify any areas for action.
- Governors consistently challenge and support the Head and SLT with regards to the quality of staff in school. In recent times One member of staff left school following Capability procedures, supported by the governing body. Subsequent recruitment in this class and another has led to two teachers completing limited contracts but not having those contracts renewed, in a drive to seek the best possible classroom

practitioners for the children. Further recruitment has been successful, but both posts were one year contracts- extensions to these contracts were agreed for 2016-17.

- Changes to both the National Curriculum and the methods of assessment have featured heavily as part of Governing body meetings. Governors are aware of the changes to the curriculum and the impact that has had on resourcing for the school. Governors have been supportive in agreeing the release of funds to address these changes eg New Maths resources, ICT equipment ,staffing additions. Governors are aware of the need to embed the teaching of British Values into the school curriculum, and link governors are primed to ask searching questions to subject leaders with regards to these changes. Assessment procedures and the removal of national curriculum levels have also been features of discussions and actions by the Governing Body. Governors have had instruction in the new reporting arrangements and how progress measures are now interpreted.

- The Governing body are dedicated to improving their own knowledge and participation in the school. New governors have committed themselves to training and have come into school to be shown around by pupils and to ask them about their school. This willingness to be visible to staff and pupils, serves to strengthen the relationship between all stakeholders in the school. Their presence has been welcomed at school concerts, award and leaving assemblies and at Governor lunches, where they sit with the children and share lunch with the children in a non-threatening way to find out about the pupil's views of the school.

- Governors are well aware of the increasing pressures on themselves with regards to their part in the leadership of the school. Increasing amounts of time are being given to the review of standards through Raise online, Ofsted Data Dashboard, and via the schools own tracking systems and self-analysis tools. Reports from Local Authority supportive reviews are shared and discussed. The drive for increased academic standards and teaching excellence is supported by the levels of governor attendance and their visible presence around school. They are known to the children and children are aware of their role in school.

The Governing Body has successfully supported the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) in its work throughout the year. They are happy to ask searching questions and make the SLT accountable for all aspects of the school from safeguarding to academic standards.

They are knowledgeable about the pressures that the school faces and work alongside the SLT to improve the outcomes for all children. They have an excellent partnership with the SLT and effectively challenge performance of staff through sub-committees on pay and staffing and with regards to the Head's performance management too. They are more than willing to challenge the Head with regards to his accountability and responsibilities.

The Governing Body have also understood their significant role in demonstrating their influence in and around school. Chiefly they appreciate the need to be able to vocalise their knowledge to HMI in our imminent Ofsted inspection. They have undergone three training sessions to familiarise themselves with the potential questions that they may be asked by HMI, taking their responsibility as leadership of the school in tandem with the SLT very seriously. They have developed well during this time, increasing in confidence and are able to vocalise the 'story' of our school effectively. Increased involvement with staff via Curriculum Link Governor visits has also contributed to their knowledge of the school.

DUNN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

Composition of the Governing Board

- 3 parent governors
- 1 head teacher
- 1 staff governor
- 1 local authority governor
- 7 co-opted governors

Committees of the Governing Board

- Finance Committee
- Staffing Committee

- Pay Review Committee
- Appeals Committee
- Pupil Disciplinary Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Complaints Committee

Chair of Governors

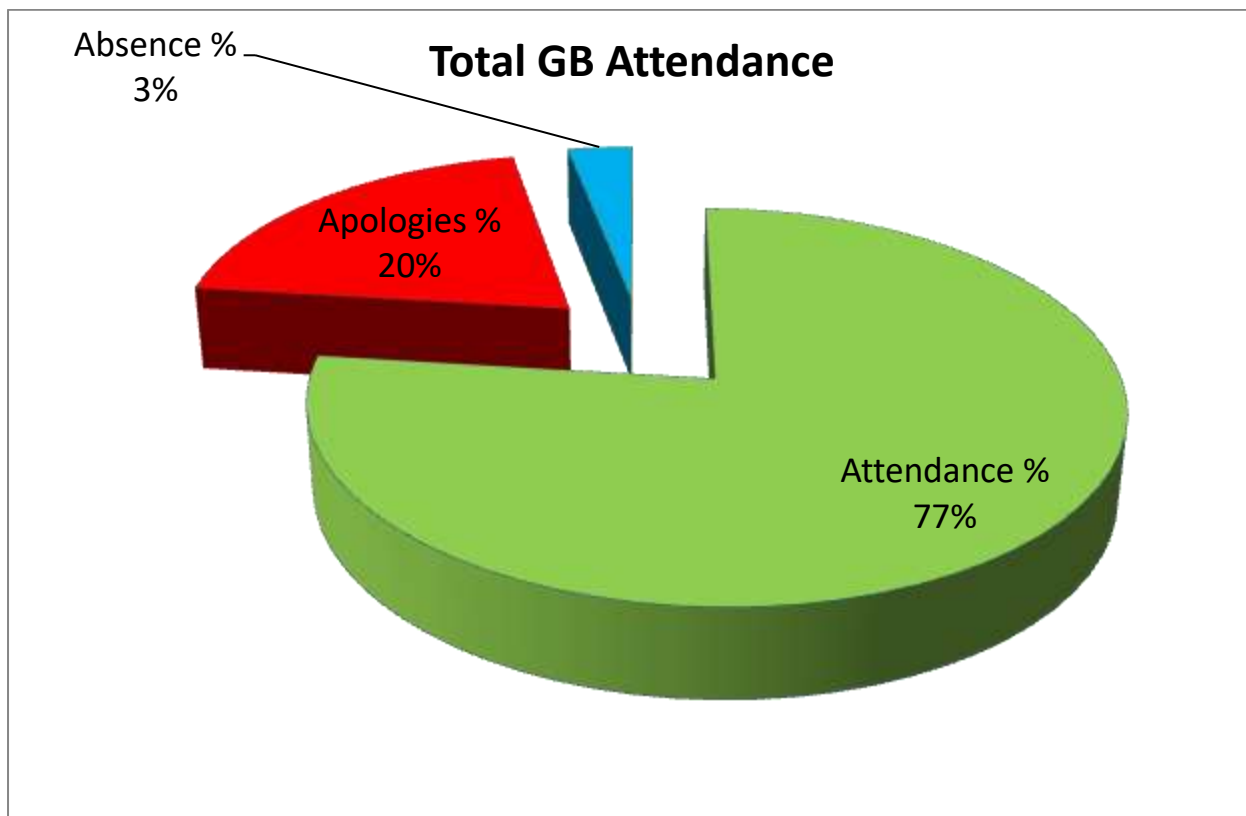
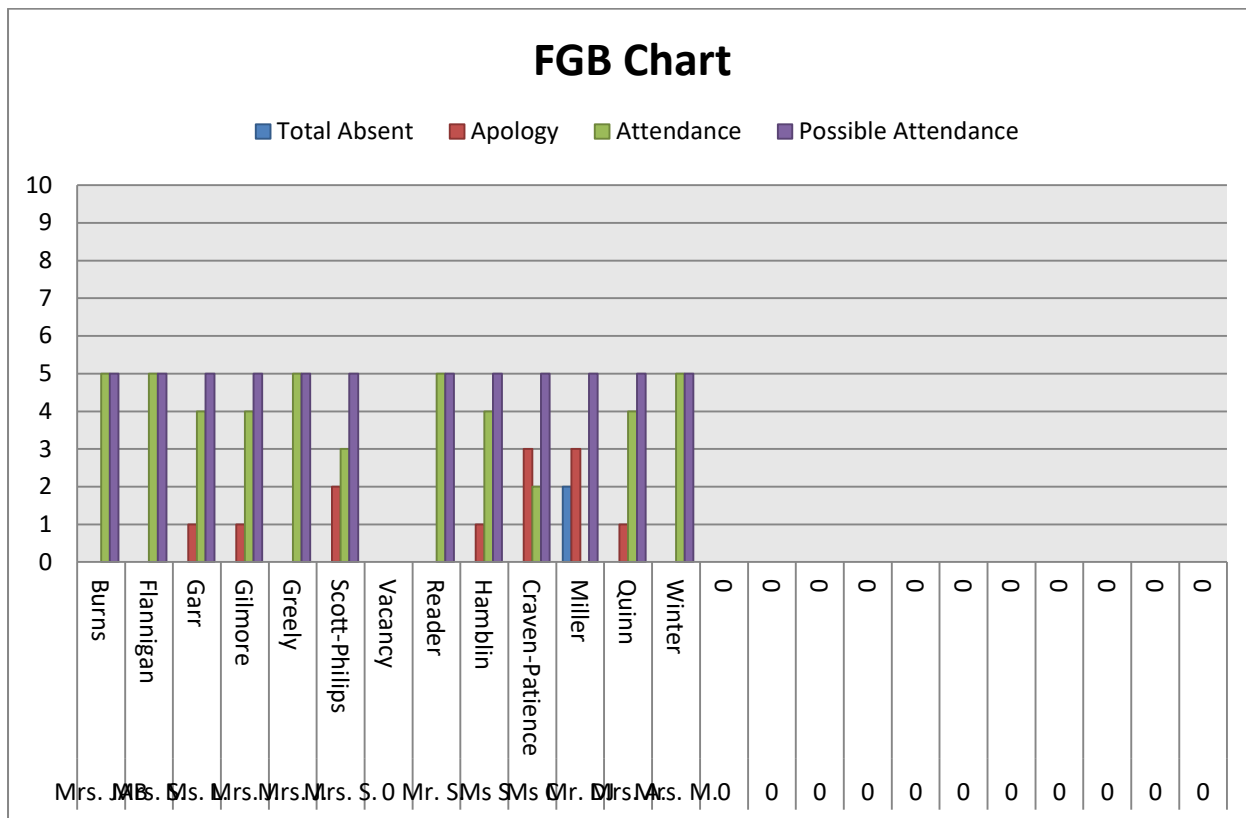
Mrs J Gilmore

Vice Chair of Governors

Mrs Joyce Greely

Name	Category	Appointing Body	Terms of Office	Committees (if associate member has voting rights)	Official responsibility
Mrs J.A.B Burns	Co-opted	Governing Board	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	General Purposes	Link Governor ICT /Healthy Schools
Mrs S Flanagan	Co-opted	Governing Board	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	Head's P Management	Link Governor PE/ Outdoor Ed / Educational visits/Science
Ms Linsey Garr	Co-opted	Governing Board	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	Staffing Finance	Link Governor Business links Workforce reform
Mrs J Gilmore	Co-opted	Governing Board	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	General Purposes All Sub committees except appeals	Link Governor Assessment/ Literacy Key Stage 2 MFL
Mrs Joyce Greely	Co-opted	Governing Board	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	Chair of Appeals Heads P Management Staffing Chair	Link Governor Mathematics
Mrs Sally Scott-Philips	Co-opted	Governing Board	06-03-2015 – 05-03-2019	Safeguarding General Purposes	Link Governor Child Protection
Vacant	Co-opted	Governing Board			
Mr S Reader	Head teacher	By virtue of position	01-09-2001 to present	All Committees except appeals	
Ms S Hamblin	LEA	Local Authority	19-10-2015 – 18-10-19	Pay Review General Purposes	Link Governor Drugs/Alcohol Equal Oppotunities
Ms C Craven-Patience	Parent	Parents	23-10-2015 – 22-10-19	Pay Review General Purposes	Link Governor RE/Worship/Art/DT
Mr David John Miller	Parent	Parents	14-03-2014 – 13-03-2018		
Mrs AA Quinn	Parent	Parents	07-12-2012 – 06-12-2016	Heads P Managemnt Staffing	Link Governor EY/SEN Health and Safety

Mrs M Winter	Staff	Staff	30-01-2015 – 29-01-2019	Finance	Link Governor Key Stage 1/Safeguarding
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REGISTER OF GOVERNOR INTERESTS

DUNN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

Name	Category	Nature of Interest	Date Interest Registered	Date Interest Ceased	Notes
Mrs J.A.B Burns	Co-opted				
Mrs S Flanagan	Co-opted				
Ms Linsey Garr	Co-opted				
Mrs J Gilmore	Co-opted				
Mrs Joyce Greely	Co-opted				
Mrs Sally Scott-Philips	Co-opted				
Vacant	Co-opted				
Mr S Reader	Head teacher				
Ms S Hamblin	LEA				
Ms C Craven-Patience	Parent				

Mrs AA Quinn	Parent	Works as part of the Portage and Pre-School Team and can work in any early years setting in South Tyneside			
Mrs M Winter	Staff	Staff member - Secretary			

Date of Review: September 2016 (ratified at the meeting 30th September 2016)

