

The Governance Statement

In January 2014 the Department for Education published departmental advice in relation to the School Procedures regulations 2013. A number of additional recommendations, not mentioned in the Procedures regulations, were made in the advice document, **including reference to the publication of an annual governance statement.**

It is also good practice for the board to publish an annual governance statement (as academy trusts are required to do through the Accounts Direction) to explain how it has fulfilled its responsibilities – particularly in relation to its core functions, including:

- *the governance arrangements that are in place, including the remit of any committees;*
- *the attendance record of individual governors at board and committee meetings; and*
- *an assessment of the effectiveness and impact of the board and any committees with details of any particular challenges that have arisen.*

Whilst accepting that the publication of a governance statement is not mandatory, ECA recommends that it is good practice and an effective way for governors to demonstrate that their accountability to parents, at least annually.

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Tiptree St Luke's Church of England (VC) Primary School

September 2016

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the St Luke's Primary School Governing Body are:

1. **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
2. **Holding the headteacher 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 St Luke's Primary School was re-constituted in 2014 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 4 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor, 3 Foundation Governors (appointed by the church) and 4 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.
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	<p>The full Governing Body meets twice in the autumn term and once in each of the spring and summer terms, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. At St Luke's we have a Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee; a Curriculum and Pupil-related Matters Committee, a Community Learning Team and a Pay and Performance Committee. We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.</p> <p>See p3 for a list of Governors.</p>
Attendance record of governors	Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See p4 for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings .
The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body	<p>Over the course of the year, we have focused on monitoring the progress and attainment of our pupils and ensuring that all our policies are up to date. We received a presentation on British Values and how the school is teaching them. We have monitored the implementation of the new national curriculum. We have worked hard to balance the school's budget in a climate of higher costs and reduced funding. We have supported the school in the development of its new website.</p> <p>The Curriculum Committee has monitored the implementation of the School Development Plan and governors also discuss key data giving the results of pupil achievement and progress, so that we can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its targets for all pupils. We are also concerned about our "vulnerable groups" of children and focus on how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes. The Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises, and makes decisions about how the school should use the budget. The governors receive regular reports about the condition of the school premises and any proposed works. Governors are also particularly concerned about safeguarding and we have a Nominated Governor for Safeguarding (Mrs Renshaw) who gives a regular report to the governors about any safeguarding matters. One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year we have reviewed and updated a number of key policies. The school's policies are available to view on the website or on request from the school office.</p>



	Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – you can either find them on the Governors' page of our website or you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.
Future plans for the governors	The Governing Body has been considering its vision for the future development of the school and will be developing this further.
How you can contact the governing body	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.

St Luke's CofE Primary School Governing Body

Governor

Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw (Chair of Governors)
Simon Morgan
Stewart Eastbrook (Vice Chair of Governors)
Donald Glasson (Chair of FPP Committee)
Pauline Wakeling
Suzanne Spall
Adam Jones
Michael Bishop
Danielle Riley (Chair of Curriculum Committee)
Robert Potter
Amy Lomer
Joanne Mackey
Gordon Malcolm
Paul Butcher

Category

Foundation Governor
Foundation PCC Governor
Foundation DBE Governor
Co-opted Governor
Co-opted Governor
Co-opted Governor
Co-opted Governor
Parent Governor
Parent Governor
Parent Governor
Parent Governor
Staff Governor
Head teacher
Authority Governor

Term of office expiry date

Ex-officio
23/12/2019
22/12/2018
15/10/2018
21/04/2018
15/10/2018
26/11/2019
15/11/2019
18/4/2020
05/01/2018
25/11/2019
31/08/2017
Ex-officio
17/03/2019