

HALL GREEN SCHOOL

Governance Statement 2023-2024

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Hall Green School September 2023

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Hall Green 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.**

Long term aims:

1. Develop a wide variety of high quality, inclusive academic, personal, and social opportunities to enable all pupils to achieve their full potential, developing **ambition** in their choices when they leave school.
2. Ensure those with barriers to success, whether due to internal or external factors, are provided with the support needed to be successful and achieve **excellence**.
3. Develop a Hall Green identity and feeling of belonging through developing pupils' sense of individual and collective **responsibility**.
4. Develop a culture focused upon positive pupil and staff wellbeing, encouraging **compassion** for all.

Key priority 2023-24:

We will develop an excellent learning ethos and attitude across the whole community.

This will be achieved through developing:

- a) High quality curriculum
- b) High quality intervention

The school's values are:

Compassion

- *We demonstrate kindness, empathy, and respect for all*
- *We help those in need of support, being charitable and generous to others*
- *We have due regard for other people's feelings, wishes, and rights*

Ambition

- *We enable pupils to have a positive vision for their future*
- *We work hard with a determination to succeed*
- *We work to develop self-belief and create a growth mind-set*

<p>Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We understand the importance of being responsible for our actions</i> • <i>We aim to be responsible in the decisions we take</i> • <i>We encourage pupils to take up positions of responsibility</i> <p>Excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We strive for academic and personal excellence</i> • <i>We lead through being positive role models for others</i> • <i>We engage fully in opportunities for growth and development</i> 	
<p>Governance arrangements</p>	<p>As an academy, Hall Green School established the structure of its governing body in the Memorandum and Articles of Association submitted to Companies House on 23 December 2011. There are three members of the Academy Trust.</p> <p>The memorandum stipulates that the school governing body will be made up of six parent Trustees; up to three staff Trustees; up to seven community Trustees; the Headteacher; additional Trustees appointed by the members, or the Secretary of State for Education should the need arise.</p> <p>The current governing body (September 2022) is made up of the Headteacher, 2 parent Trustees, 5 community Trustees and 3 staff Trustees.</p> <p>The governing body is made up of people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.</p> <p>The full Governing Body meets six times over the course of an academic year.</p> <p>We also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. These committees meet close to the full Trustees’ meeting to give additional time to Trustees to scrutinise the work of the senior team and then report back to full Trustees’ meetings. At HGS we have three standing sub-committees: the first is the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which focuses on finance, premises, health and safety and some staffing and personnel matters. Pay and performance of staff is reviewed in the autumn and spring terms. We have an Audit and Risk Committee who meet to consider internal controls, risk management and use of external auditors. We also have the Pastoral and Curriculum Committee, which attends to teaching and learning, behaviour and attendance and safeguarding.</p> <p>For the academic year 2023-24, the Audit Committee has been combined with the Finance & General Purposes Committee.</p> <p>See Appendix A for a list of Trustees.</p>
<p>Attendance record of Trustees</p>	<p>Over the previous year Trustees have had good attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate”.</p> <p>See Appendix B for details of individual Trustees’ attendance at meetings.</p>

<p>The work that we have done on our committees and in the governing body</p>	<p>An annual review of skills and training needs is completed by Trustees to ensure the governing body is fully prepared for effective governance.</p> <p>Trustees monitor the performance of the school through a variety of methods. Primarily, this quality assurance is completed through reports to the committees from the Senior Leadership Team which are then scrutinised and discussed during the meetings. The Trustees also received the statutory reports from the school on SEN provision, equality information, and pupil premium. In addition, link Trustees make visits to school and discuss with the relevant Senior Leader the aspects specific to their link Trustee role. In the academic year 2022/23 we had 7 link Trustee roles. Furthermore, Trustees receive external monitoring and quality assurance reports for various aspects of school. The last academic year included a safeguarding review and two internal scrutinies focused upon Finance and HR procedures, and GDPR policy and practice.</p> <p>Health and Safety reports were presented to the full governing body.</p> <p>Trustees have monitored the spending and impact of additional funding due to the pandemic including funding for the testing programme and the COVID Recovery Premium.</p> <p>Trustees also kept up to date with the changing national landscape on school structures and have begun the scoping phase to be on track for the government White Paper proposal for all schools to be part of a multi-academy trust by 2030. The Governing Body are exploring all possible avenues for Multi-Academy Trust development.</p> <p>Trustees took a full part in the strategic direction of the school, by contributing to the development of the SDP for 2022-23, and reviewing progress made against the SDP for 2021-22.</p> <p>Trustees scrutinised and approved new or updated policy documents, ensuring the school meets its statutory duties.</p> <p>Trustees carried out close monitoring of the budget through F&GP; Trustees provided their full support to produce a balanced budget for 2023-2024. The F&GP met as the Pay committee on two occasions to moderate pay decisions following performance management.</p> <p>Trustees have been proactive in keeping up to date through the year via a variety of ways; courses, relevant reading, and attending meetings and webinars.</p>
<p>Future plans for the Trustees</p>	<p>Hall Green is a successful and popular school and recognises being outward facing, collaborative, and reflective are key components of continued improvement. A full internal review of the current Articles of Association and structure of the Governing Body was carried out in Spring 2021 following the arrival of a new Headteacher, with guidance from Browne Jacobson. Currently, as a stand-alone academy, Hall Green School continues to improve and thrive although the governing body recognise the need to avoid complacency. The structure of the governing body and the school's status continue to be reviewed regularly with the school beginning the scoping phase to meet the Government requirement for all schools to be part of a multi-academy trust by 2030 as outlined in the recent White Paper, exploring all avenues for Multi-Academy Trust development.</p> <p>A full review of the Articles of Association and Funding Agreement are planned in 2023/24, along with an external Governance review.</p> <p>See attached grid in Appendix C.</p>

How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Trustees or Clerk via the school office or through the Headteacher’s PA, Mrs Paula Elliott through email (p.elliott@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk). You can see the full list of Trustees on the Governance page of the school website.