



## **DORMSTON SCHOOL**

### **Annual Governance Statement for the Dormston School Governing Board - 2024-2025**

In accordance with the DfE Governance Handbook, the 3 core strategic functions of our governing board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and for the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Our instrument of governance is comprised of the following categories:

- 2 parent governors;
- 1 staff governor;
- 1 Local Authority governor;
- 5 co-opted governors;
- The Headteacher.

The Full Governing Board meets at least once each term, we also have 2 committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail and 2 committees to carry out statutory functions. These committees are:

- Curriculum Committee;
- Resources Committee;
- Pay Committee;
- Performance Management Committee.

The school was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2022 and received a judgement of 'Good'. The inspection report noted that "The school is very well led. Governors are knowledgeable about the school. They challenge school leaders effectively to continue to improve the school. Governors and school leaders have an accurate

picture of what is being done well. They also know what needs to improve further." Despite this, governors have not been complacent and continue to play an important role in driving up standards. Examples of the work that we have carried out during the past year in support of the school includes:

- Exploration of the benefits/disadvantages of joining or forming a multi academy trust
- Recruitment of new staff governor
- Annual self-evaluation of the effectiveness of the governing board
- School budget management
- Evaluation of impact of additional funding, such as Pupil Premium, SEND etc
- Health and Safety issues and building works monitored
- Scheduled policies and procedures updated and reviewed
- Staff deployment, workload and well-being monitored
- Curriculum implementation and accuracy of assessments monitored to ensure pupils develop their learning further
- Data analysis to ensure that pupils make good progress from their starting points
- Ensuring that good attendance is encouraged, and that poor attendance is effectively addressed
- Parental engagement through newsletters, parent events and liaison with PTA

Our Governing Board Development Plan 2025-2026 hopes to achieve the following:

- Explore the possibility of academy conversion
- Work with the Headteacher and senior leaders to monitor progress against our School Improvement Plan
- Continue to develop the skills and expertise of governors in line with the DfE governance guidance

### **How you can contact the Governing Board**

We welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas and are happy to provide more information if you are interested in finding out about becoming a governor. The Chair of Governors, Emma Hindle, can be contacted via the School Office.

Further information about governance is also available on the Governors page of the school website.