



North Road Community Primary School
Enjoy learning, succeed in life



Governors' Report to Parents 2017-2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

As we begin Term one of the new academic year it is a time for the Chair of Governors to reflect back on the highlights of the previous academic year. The Annual Report to Parents is a chance to look back on all the achievements, activities and opportunities at North Road Community Primary School. It has been a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated team of teachers and Teaching Assistants this year. I have endeavoured in my first full year as Chair of Governors, to fully immerse myself in the school.

I have been in school on Thursdays to meet with the Headteacher, Mrs Stillie, I have helped in classrooms, I have attended all events, I have been involved in recruitment, formal lesson observations, I have been on several school trips, playground duty, meetings with the School Improvement Partner etc with the specific intention to *really get to know* the children and staff. After thirty seven years in education myself, I do feel qualified to reinforce and reassure parents of the dedication of the entire team to helping your children reach the highest standards both academic and in personal "life skills". All staff are committed to ensuring that the children encounter a wide range of learning opportunities and a broad scheme of activities throughout the year. Every individual child is "planned for" and considered when lessons are constructed and every child's progress is plotted on an effective tracking system. The Head and teaching staff spend hours and hours of school time and of their own time, designing exciting learning experiences for all children.

The Governing Body is in place to monitor, challenge and support the school. There is a vast skill set amongst the team of governors, who also give up their time to visit school and be wholly involved in the life of the school. We are very proud of the inclusive, supportive and celebratory school ethos at North Road Community Primary School and even more so of the School Values that permeate every lesson, event and decision in the school. It is vital that we strive to develop our children to become good citizens with a strong moral

code of values. Whenever I visit the school I am always impressed by the exemplary behaviour of the pupils towards staff, visitors and one another.

We have had several new parent Governors come on board this year, which has been absolutely tremendous. They have quickly established themselves and we are all committed to continue to work with Mrs Stillie and the staff, to ensure that we contribute to the school's effectiveness and future development.

At North Road Community Primary School, everyone without exception, has the children's safety, welfare and progress at the forefront of all decision-making. Every member of staff is knowledgeable and has a high standard of training relating to safeguarding. Every member of staff takes responsibility for aspects of leadership and/or the curriculum. Every Governor is a leader of at least one aspect of the school's life, working alongside teaching staff as a strong team to improve and raise standards. As Governors we also spend time scrutinising data, policies and documentation comparable to local and national targets. We also ensure that the Headteacher and staff are regularly and rigorously appraised and held accountable for their responsibilities. North Road Community Primary school has a strong team of Governors from wide ranging backgrounds in education, finance, media, business, HR and others. In all, there is a very strong 'Team' ethos at North Road Community Primary School all promoting the progress of every child and ensuring their personal development as rounded individuals.

Pupil voice is heard through the School Council who hold regular meetings to discuss current topics and issues that are important to them. Their ideas are key to advancing their own school leadership and the process encourages democratic procedures and undertaking responsibilities. This means that the *whole school community* and all stakeholders can be part of consultation and decision making processes.

The School Development Plan is the overall "working document" that maps the curriculum and creates action plans for the coming year. The SDP is regularly monitored for its impact and outcomes at Review meetings, which include staff and Governors. Tracking the progress of every child is achieved using quite sophisticated tables of data. This careful tracking of progress and assessments, inform future developments and practice. As a small school, every child is "well known" at North Road and the children benefit from personalised intervention strategies developed by their teachers.

The Governing Body and the Headteacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and by policies of the Local Authority (LA). The internal management of the school is the responsibility of the Headteacher.

The composition and members of the Governing Body can be found on the school's website.



OFSTED view of our school:

In February 2017 the OFSTED Inspection pronounced that North Road Community Primary school had sustained **GOOD provision** for our pupils. The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection.

We were tasked to make the following improvements:

- *Better use made of the early years outdoor learning area to extend the children's learning opportunities so that they can further develop their mathematical skills.* This has been achieved and an HLTA, Mrs Pearce, has been given specific responsibility for maintaining this.
- *Teachers ensure that all pupils consistently use the agreed school policy for setting out numbers when completing mathematical calculations.* This was acted upon immediately and is a sustained practice throughout the school.

The full HMI findings are under "Information" on the school website.

Our School Aims continue to provide a school community where:-

- Children are happy, safe and secure
- Children feel their 'voice' is heard
- High quality teaching and learning takes place
- Children's learning and wellbeing are at the centre of everything we do
- Children's achievements are celebrated and reinforced
- Creativity and curiosity can flourish
- Everyone and everything is treated with respect
- Children are encouraged to be independent, think for themselves, accept challenges and persevere
- Good behaviour and honesty is expected and everyone is encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions

- Inclusion, diversity and pride are promoted
- Children feel part of the wider community

Ongoing Improvements:-

Focus throughout 2017-2018 was to:

- Raise standards in Maths and Writing
- Improve marking and constructive feedback that extends and supports learning
- Continue the discreet e safety curriculum
- Improve the outdoor provision sensory garden area
- Embed the topic based curriculum two year cycle
- Embed the new scheme and policy for handwriting.
- Achieve the next ArtsMark Award – going for Gold
- Achieve a School Games PE Award – Gold standard
- Further develop our Mental Health provision

Results and Progress Tracking:-

SATs took place in May this year. We were all impressed by the commitment of the children who regularly attended “Early Bird” revision sessions. We were also very proud of their positivity and support for each other during the testing period. Governors also went into school to assist invigilation and to ensure that tests were conducted appropriately.

Due to changes in the curriculum, the tests this year were rather stringent. Mrs Stillie has already received information on the results and in meetings throughout Governors will be looking at what these test results revealed and the impact on future preparation.

The validated data for this year will only be available in October 2018

Curriculum:-

Governors form a specific sub-committee for Curriculum and Pupils

Exciting and stimulating learning is at the forefront of all planning. The second phase of the *two year topic based curriculum* was adopted. This new approach has been innovative, praised and has proven to be a resounding success for both teachers and pupils – evidenced by pupil voice activities.

September 2018 sees fine tuning and new ideas which will enhance its successes as the cycle continues through again.

There is a detailed curriculum map available on the school website where parents can see upcoming topics for each class and seize opportunities to engage in their child's learning at home. These are also emailed home termly to encourage participation of parental involvement in their child's learning.

A significant investment in information technology has boosted opportunities for all pupils, provided by the Friends of North Road. Parental participation and support of FONR events, very quickly converts to new equipment and resources.

Mastery in Maths was adopted across the school and will continue to embed into the curriculum.

Phonics programme championed by Ms Andrews and Mrs Cobb have proven very successful and the KS1 improvement was very encouraging.

Purple Learners was introduced to encourage children to face challenge and seek new skills across the curriculum. The children have risen to this element of challenge, evidenced in lessons.

2018-19 will see further developments in the structure of the school curriculum to optimise learning time;

- embed the new phonics programme
 - augment the assessment booklets for reading
 - further develop the principles of Purple Learners and Growth Mindset
 - embed Spellzoo to support spelling homework
 - Develop further the outdoor learning provision in Foundation Stage and KS1
 - Introduce a new Maths homework tool for supporting home learning
- To name a few, but which are outlined more fully in the School Development Plan.

Personalised Pupil Interventions:-

The school identifies and supports children with specific academic needs including those of our more able pupils.

January 2019 Ms Emma Westall will return from maternity leave to resume her responsibilities as SENDCo (Special Educational Needs & Disability Coordinator); she will also resume the role of 'Most Able Interventions' strategist. In the meantime Ms. Claire Smart will act as SENDCo

Staff changes and classroom teachers for the coming year, were outlined to parents at the end of Term 6. Mrs Cathy Johnson will continue as Senior teacher and she will also sustain her role as pupil premium champion. She will ensure that the progress of individuals is carefully tracked and monitored. However if *any pupil* at North Road is assessed as requiring extra or external support, it is identified quickly and appropriate strategies/agencies engaged.

Our enthusiastic and dedicated team of teaching assistants work very closely with the class teachers to reinforce and support learning effectively. They are tasked to work with groups and/or individuals depending on the needs identified and are always prepared to go the extra mile.

Teachers constantly assess all pupils' learning and progress both formally and informally. Targets are discussed and regularly reviewed with pupils themselves. Tracking systems have been embedded to ensure the progress and growth of each child's skill base and developmental needs.

Minority and underachieving groups are supported effectively and their progress is specifically tracked and monitored by the Local Authority so that they can attain their potential. Diminishing the inequalities/ differences for children in disadvantaged groups, is a priority for every teacher with these children in their classes.

Attendance 2017 - 2018:

Pluto Class: 94.4% Mars Class: 96.3%

Neptune Class: 95.7% Jupiter Class: 95.6%

It is still the case that holidays are not allowed in term time and will be subject to Local Authority imposed fines.

It is important that medical and dental appointments are made outside of school hours so as not to disrupt your child's learning.

As a school we finished the year with an attendance level of 95.6% which is in line with local figures.

Personal Development:-

Celebrations of success continue to be a prominent focus throughout North Road Community Primary School. These are all shared with parents and the community via "Tweets", newsletters, emails, on the website, in local media, communications home etc. When there is a reason to celebrate, the very walls and corridors reverberate with the positivity and enthusiasm that surrounds the children daily. A plethora of accomplishments can be traced throughout every aspect of life at North Road Community School on a weekly, if not daily,

basis. Every opportunity is grasped to acknowledge and reward the pupils for their accomplishments and endeavours, including “Stars of North Road”, Reading Awards, Timestable Awards, North Road Respect Awards and many, many more.

“Do-Jos” in 2018-19 will be awarded for those who uphold and demonstrate the school values. This has proved to be very popular reward system with all pupils.

Year 6 in 2018-19 the pupils will ALL have a role with responsibilities, to encourage leadership, citizenship and personal development skills to equip them for the future. Teachers vote for Prefects, House Captains, Vice-Captains and Librarians.

Healthy lifestyle is a high priority in our school. As part of their work with food, pupils are taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating to their routines. The pupils have a comprehensive array of sport and regular physical activity within school, including the daily mile. They have the opportunity to participate in less well known school sports eg. golf

It is imperative that all our children feel safe in our school and in their home surroundings but also “on line”. North Road has introduced a programme of differentiated e-safety activities in “Hector’s World”. Safety in their native “technological world” has become paramount; it is taught in school but must be reinforced and supervised in the home environment.

All staff and Governors receive child protection and safeguarding training. Adults give children time to talk through any issues which reflects the benefits of *small school family ethos*. We have a comprehensive PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum, addressed through class sessions, assemblies and circle times.

We benefit from the skills of Mrs Difford who is soon to become a Higher Level Teaching Assistant with credentials in Emotional Literacy. It is her role to provide extra emotional support and she monitors the most vulnerable children. She also provides support strategies to the class teacher and feedback to parents.

In surveys during and since the OFSTED inspection, our children reported that they feel happy and safe at North Road Community Primary School. The findings are an attachment to this document. The school has a robust vetting procedure for adults and staffing recruitment in school and provides on-going training.

Activities and Opportunities for Pupils:-

The enrichment provision to develop the children's enthusiasm for learning and to promote/enhance each child's personal skills base, never ceases to amaze me. After School clubs, visits out and visitors in, are widely used to support the curriculum and to make learning vibrant and exciting for our children. This includes linking with our local and wider community as well as further afield.

Curriculum:

- Termly Art projects
- Science Week
- Science Workshop at YIA
- Health in Schools Day
- World Book Day
- Roald Dahl Day
- Arts Mark projects – including joint ventures with the Severn Vale Fine Arts Society
- Pop Up Art Galleries across the community have been very well received
- Christmas Play and Carol Concert
- Internet Safety Day
- Trip to Bristol Museum
- Design & Technology Day at YIA
- Science Day at Wellesley School
- Social Media Safety Assembly
- World Cup Geography Day
- Drama Club

Sporting:

- Walk to School WOW initiative
- Family Swim Night
- Orienteering Event with parents
- 3 mile sponsored “Welly Walk”
- Tag Rugby with Bristol Rugby
- May Day Football Derby Match
- Tennis Coaching
- Annual Sports Day
- Olympic Athlete Visit
- Kick Boxing, Cross Country, Multi-Sports, Netball, Swimming for under 25metre swimmers.
- Small School Athletics Championships – Gold Medal Winners!

- South Glos Festival of Youth Dance
- Cheer Leaders Team
- Cross Country Championships Wake and Shake sessions involving parents.
- Scooter training
- Bath University Athletics opportunity
- School Games Award – Silver
- North Road football team went from strength to strength, in their new kit. Their achievements culminated in Third Place in the Small Schools League in the last days of the school year.

Citizenship:

- Macmillan Coffee morning
- Hello Yellow Day – mental health awareness event
- Year 6 Camp
- Harvest Assembly
- Children in Need Day
- St Mary’s Church Christmas Tree festival
- Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
- Local Food Bank support
- British Values Week
- May Day Iron Acton
- London Marathon – support to parent runners
- Royal Wedding Celebrations
- Circus Day – whole school
- Anderson Cup
- Peter’s Pride Trophy
- Young Leadership opportunities
- Hannukah celebrations
- A Celebration of Eid-Al-Fitr
- Faith Day
- French Day
- Talent Show
- School Choir

Children are consulted about their choice of after school clubs and there is widespread participation. Those which are currently offered include support with Homework, Ocarinas, Dance, Outdoor Club, Netball, Board Games, Computer Programming, Art Club, Cheerleading, Drama Club and Outdoor Play

Club. Many of these and new clubs will all happen in 2018-19 after the successes of last year.

Budget and Finance:-

Governors form a specific sub-committee for Resources and Pay

The Governing Body has specific responsibility for ensuring that the budget is spent wisely and effectively. We have a skilled group of financial experts on the Governing body who closely monitor spending, anticipate budgetary cuts and carefully manage the funds allocated to the school. There is great thrift within school and Mrs Stillie sustains a keen and creative eye on finance, to ensure that we keep spending within the necessary limits. 2017-2018 returned a balanced Budget with a small carry forward into the next academic school year.

Pupil Premium Spending is published on the website.

Parents and our Community:-

The Parent Council has emerged during the year, as a driving force at North Road Community Primary School. Parental input is always welcomed and the results of the Governors Questionnaire is alongside in this report. We benefit from strong partnerships within the local community and many establishments wider afield.

The school encourages the contribution of parents and the community and aims to involve them in decisions about the future of the school. Examples during the academic year 2017/18 included -

- Meet the Teacher sessions
- Stay and read events
- Open Classroom afternoon
- Formal Parents Evenings
- Grandparents to play – Pluto Class
- Dads to play – Pluto Class
- Sports Day & Family Picnic Lunch
- Governors to Parents questionnaire – results attached
- The *Friends of North Road this year a predominantly parent based group, have had a significant impact on the school due to its fantastic fund raising and the events that have been organised for children and parents throughout the year.

- The school has been developing closer links with all the small schools in the area to share good practice and to provide mutual support.
- The School plays a leading role with other schools locally to raise attainment and in mental health awareness.

***Friends of North Road:-**

I would like at this point to make special mention of the Friends of North Road, who, led by the dynamic and untiring Mrs Ceri Millar, have raised in excess of **£5,000** this year through their many events.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a proactive group in the Friends of North Road. They work tirelessly at fundraising, which in turn provides enhanced resources to benefit every child within North Road Community Primary School. Notably this year, the funds have predominantly gone to a complete refurbishment of the KS2 toilets, which were in great need of an upgrade!

We benefit hugely from many people who help in the school on a voluntary basis. Their contribution boosts the children's educational and social skills greatly.

Also a huge thank you to all the parents/carers /guardians and community friends who have supported all the activities. The funds have supported curriculum improvements, new books to re-stock the library and the refurbishment of the KS2 bathroom area.

Please continue to come along, participate and support their events – you **can** make a difference. Look at the website for upcoming events!

Premises:-

Minor works have been undertaken by many volunteers this year and we sincerely thank them for their innumerable volunteer hours. A considerable amount of money is saved in this way that can then be spent on our children.

Throughout the school year much has been done to enhance the front of our school. The Reception class play area has been refurbished and new signage added to encourage free flow outdoor play. We thank our Governor Bob Shepherd and his team who have renovated the area of stone circles to be known as the sensory garden; a sheltered place to sit and *enjoy some chill time*.

The colourful games marking and fitness trail in the playground have been welcome additions and used by all children

More Information:-

The school website is constantly updated with photographs, celebration of successes, forthcoming events etc. **Make a note to visit the website regularly!**

<https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk>

This is where you will also find more information about our school including our policies and complaints procedure.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first full year as Chair of Governors at North Road Community Primary School. I am constantly amazed at the exuberant learning that goes on within the school and the vast number of opportunities offered. I am continually “uplifted” by my time spent within the school. It is a *JOY* to help in the classrooms, chat with the children and experience the dedication and commitment of every member of staff led by the unstinting, motivational energy and enthusiasm of Headteacher, Mrs Stillie.

I look forward to meeting more parents next year and I can be easily contacted through the school. I am frequently in and around school and in the playground at drop off/collection times. Please do approach and make yourself known to me.

2018 – 2019 promises to be another exciting, vibrant year at North Road Community Primary School and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to be involved.

Mrs Sue Rigby – Chair of Governors



