

## Mellers Primary School

### Governors' Impact Statement 2019/20

**Mellers is a unique and extraordinary school. The GB has a vision for exceptional progress for all children, irrespective of starting point, through inspirational teaching and leadership. Children will be enabled to be resilient learners, in a culture where there is no stereotyping of expectations, and the environment is safe and nurturing.**

The following is a statement by the Governors of Mellers Primary School showing the monitoring work that has been carried out by the board and the impact that the visits have had for the education of the pupils.

The academic year 2019 – 2020 has been an extraordinary one in which all but the most vulnerable and children of key workers ceased coming to school during the third week of March 2020 and many did not return to their classrooms fully until September. However no such impact statement could be published without Governors acknowledging the vast amount of support given to pupils and families during this time. The following is a list of some of the activities monitored by Governors during the period:

- Governors received a weekly report from the Head stating the number of children in school, the home visits made, the response to home learning and safeguarding issues.
- Weekly online assemblies including rewards and commendations for home learning.
- SLT meetings in which the team planned for and reacted to the ongoing issues arising from the pandemic as well as strategic planning for the new year.
- Scrutiny of risk assessments and planning for re opening
- Wellbeing advice for staff parents and children

The list is not exhaustive but serves to highlight the huge amount of work going on in school while many of the pupils were at home. Without this the transition into the 2020/2021 academic year would not have been as smooth.

The Governing Body is divided into 3 working groups each monitoring a different area:

Pupil Progress

Pupils and Curriculum

Finance and General Purposes

Governors visit the school for many different reasons and in doing so monitoring of all areas of the work is an on - going process. We have a Governors' Blog which is on the school website and it is interesting to read about all the activities that are undertaken by Governors.

Below are the specific areas of the School Improvement Plan which the Governors have monitored last academic year and notes regarding the impact we believe our activities have had.

## Priority area 1: Quality of Education

Improvement Area	Activity	Impact
<p>To ensure that a robust curriculum is in place, which fully reflects the Mellers vision for our community</p>	<p>Visit linked to STEM subjects</p>	<p>An Associate Governor was appointed from the Department of Microbiology at the University of Nottingham to link with the subject lead</p>
<p>To provide aspirational education so that all pupils with potential for greater depth are given the opportunity to achieve it</p>	<p>Several Governors attended the curriculum training lead by Tom Sherrington, National expert on Curriculum development</p>	<p>Governors gained an understanding of what a world class primary curriculum should look like and what we should be aspiring to</p>
<p>To provide aspirational education so that all pupils with potential for greater depth are given the opportunity to achieve it</p>	<p>Governors received reports from the Assistant Head leading on the curriculum review</p>	<p>Governors understood the curriculum review process and felt assured that the new curriculum was appropriate for the school. They know the focus for the year was History and Geography linking in to the school and its historical and geographic context</p>
<p>To provide aspirational education so that all pupils with potential for greater depth are given the opportunity to achieve it</p>	<p>Governors interviewed pupils in order to understand the maths curriculum especially focussing on the progress of pupils working at greater depth</p>	<p>Governors received first hand feedback from pupils and were assured that the maths curriculum was robust and challenging</p>
<p>To provide aspirational education so that all pupils with potential for greater depth are given the opportunity to achieve it</p>	<p>The link Governor visited school to attend the visit from the Power of Reading consultant which included talking to pupils. She also</p>	<p>Governors were assured about the quality of reading in the school which lead to the high levels of progress made by all pupils. They also took on board the need to do more work on</p>

<p><b>Priority Area 2: Behaviour and Attitudes</b> To ensure that the Mellers culture remains positive, happy and respectful</p>	<p>attended a deep dive into reading which was conducted by a team of external advisors.</p> <p>The link Governor for PE met with the subject lead to better understand the delivery of a high quality sports curriculum which was linked to the health and well being of the pupils</p> <p>At the Finance Committee Governors received a presentation on the lease of 30 ipads for the school. This was agreed as it represented better value for money and the school could continue to use the existing stock whilst viable.</p> <p>Governors meet with pupils as often as possible to get direct feedback</p> <p>Governors supported the launch of the new RSE curriculum</p>	<p>phonics, re visiting the work which had been done some years previously. This lead to staff INSET to update and improve practice.</p> <p>Governors were assured that pupils had a full sporting curriculum, including swimming for all which was ensuring that they had a love of sporting activity and its linked to health and wellbeing</p> <p>Greater numbers of children would have access to the ipads and they would serve to enhance and enrich the curriculum</p> <p>Governors are assured that pupils are truly happy and positive about their education and therefore make the maximum amount of progress</p> <p>Governors are assured that pupils are given the statutory curriculum and that parents are fully informed in a sensitive way</p>
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<p><b>Priority Area 3: Personal Development</b></p> <p>To ensure that every member of the Mellers community is aiming to be 'the best that they can be'</p>	<p>Governors continue to agree finance for such projects as A Place to Be and In Harmony</p> <p>At Pupil Progress meetings Governors received feedback on results and asked questions to clarify and deepen their understanding. They discussed. In particular the progress and attainment of boys at KS1</p> <p>The link Governor for SEND met with the SEND coordinator on a number of occasions to ensure that pupils were getting the full support according to their level of need.</p> <p>Governors supported the restructuring of the SEND staffing in order to encourage staff development</p>	<p>Children and parents are supported emotionally to deal with difficulties and are thus able to achieve their full potential.</p> <p>A greater emphasis was placed on this cohort, particularly around EAL issues with extra support being brought in to upskill staff so they felt confident to support the pupils</p> <p>Governors felt confident that our SEND pupils were making at least good progress from their starting points with many pupils far exceeding expectations'</p> <p>The restructured SEND department is working very well with staff saying that referrals are being picked up and actioned immediately thus enabling pupils to make good progress.</p>
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<p><b>Priority Area 4: Leadership and Management:</b></p> <p>To further develop leadership at all levels</p>	<p>Governors supported the restructuring of SLT to enable a second Assistant Headteacher role to be put in place.</p> <p>Governors attended the Head's appraisal process and the Annual Performance review conducted by our external advisor.</p> <p>Governors attended the SLT day in which the School Development Plan and targets are set</p>	<p>Increase in SLT capacity to ensure the further development of the school and also the work with Nottingham Nursery School</p> <p>Governors were assured that the school was set to reach the targets and that the HT performance was driving the improvements identified. This process has led to year on year improvements and high standards of progress.</p> <p>Governors were clear about the priorities and had been part of the improvement process.</p>
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I think it is fair to say that Governors have not achieved as much as they would have liked last academic year as a result of the Covid pandemic and the closure of the school in March 2020. However, Governors continued to work hard and met during this period. They were kept fully informed and were delighted with the way the school handled such a difficult period for pupils, staff and parents. As a Governing Body we feel confident and excited about the continued development of our fantastic school which rises with creativity and professionalism as each new challenge occurs. Our vision for the school is that it is and continues to be unique and extraordinary. As a Governing Body we will work tirelessly to ensure this remains to be the case.

All the minutes from the Governors' Meetings are on the website and we would encourage parents and carers to read them and ask questions of the Governing Body who can be contacted through the school office.

Lesley Lyon

Chair of Governors

October 2020