



Governor Impact Statement – October 2024

The start of the academic year is a great opportunity to review and reflect on the progress made at MTVS over the last academic year, not only for students, teachers, TA' s and the rest of the staff, but for the Governors as well. The role of the Governing Body is primarily to advise and oversee three areas, the overall strategic direction of the school, maintaining and developing the educational standard in the school, and ensuring school funds are appropriately managed.

To enable the Governors to do this, we meet at least once per half term, when we discuss a broad range of topics which align with our 3 areas of focus. In addition, individual Governors have specific areas of responsibility, some of which are statutory, such as special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), safeguarding and pupil premium, while others are specific to our school and relate to school's development plan (SDP) for school improvement, including delivery of the educational curriculum, maintaining the wellbeing and supporting the mental health of the students and staff, and ensuring that the premises remain safe and are well maintained. To support our understanding of the educational standards, each of the Governors is responsible for a chosen subject area and has visited the subject leads to better understand the delivery of the curriculum. This has provided an invaluable insight into the methods and approach the teaching staff adopt and has given the Governors the confidence that the curriculum is being delivered in an appropriate and engaging manner. Governors aim to visit school at least once per term to carry out these fact-finding exercises.

Some of the outcomes include:

- A dedicated Art assembly to inspire the children and open their minds to the variety of career opportunities that Art as a subject can lead to.
- Financial controls of the school are also well supported by the Governors, including multiple specific meetings reviewing the financial status of the school with the school business manager and with the Local Authority budget officer.
- Upkeep of the premises and the prioritisation of capital projects to improve the school buildings and infrastructure has been supported by Governors' on-site visits during Health and Safety inspections and to focus spending in the most beneficial and needy areas. You may have noticed over the summer break the flagging behind the Year 3 classroom, so this area can now be used as an outdoor learning area and a quiet area for playtimes. You may have also noticed the track on field has been replaced, meaning there is now an all-weather path around the school field.
- Governors have taken part in strategic reviews of the school, and there is an ongoing investigation of the potential benefits of academisation, which has included several presentations from established multi-academy trusts to some members of our Senior

Leadership Team and Governors. However, Governors continue to seek information on the potential benefits, primarily to our children, but also to staff and parents, which drives a great dialogue on the subject for us to consider as part of our future strategic direction.

- Due to the importance of promoting school appropriately, Governors have recently undertaken a review of our social media presence and other methods of communicating with our key stakeholders to improve how we send the right messages to the right people at the right time. One Governor has worked closely with a member of the Senior Leadership Team resulting in the new Facebook and Instagram pages as a means to celebrate the wonderful work of the school and its amazing children, as well as providing more visibility for the school in our local community. You will have also seen the revised Newsletter which, as well as providing important information, keeps you up to date with what's been going on and the plans ahead.
- Governors also enjoy getting to know our school community by attending school events. Last year Governors supported school trips and attended sporting events, the Summer Fair, the Colour Run and the Year 6 Leavers assembly.

Moving forward into this year, the Governors will be continuing their work in the areas outlined and strive to deliver the aims, values, and ethos of the school and do the best we can for the pupils at MTVS. Our key focus areas for the coming year will be to:

- Improve our engagement with the school community, mainly stakeholders, but also the wider community.
- Improve communications both within school and with our stakeholders.
- Continue to investigate academisation.
- Develop an outdoor learning environment.

If you would like to give your views about the school and your experiences, please complete the OFSTED parent view survey by clicking on the link and selecting "Give your Views".

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/7956/15>

We hope this communication provides some insight into the work undertaken by the Governors. If you would like to find out more, or are interested in joining the Board of Governors, please feel free to contact any of the Governors accordingly.

We are; Andy Canham (Chair), Jill Cutler (Vice Chair), Adrian Ralph, Anouska Youds, Clare Arnold, Linda Peate, Nicola Lasikiewicz

Email the Chair on Chair2024@mickletrafford.cheshire.sch.uk, or any other Governor on

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