



Romanby Primary School Governing board report to parents

Introduction

This report has been created by the governing body for the parents of Romanby Primary School. In this report we look back on the school year 2021/2022 and look ahead to 2022/2023.

A huge amount of work goes on behind the scenes between school staff and governors throughout the year and we hope this will give you some insight into some of that important work.

You can find more information about the school on Romanby Primary School website where you will see updates on school life, policies and achievements. As a governing body we welcome feedback from parents and pupils and would love to hear from you if you have any concerns or ideas for improvement.

As well as our monthly meetings, governors regularly meet with staff and pupils to discuss school initiatives. Governor self-evaluation work helps shape strategic direction of the school.

If you are interested in becoming a governor at Romanby Primary School we would also love to hear from you as we will have some vacancies during the year ahead.

Essential information

Headteacher – Mr James Foxwell

Chair of the governing board – Jo Dickinson

Vice-Chair of the governing board – Nicola Proud

Main email - admin@romanby.n-yorks.sch.uk

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What is a governing board?

The governing board exists to make sure that the school runs effectively. It is a strategic role and the governing board performance manages the headteacher, who runs the school on a day-to-day basis. The core functions of the governing board are:

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

Membership of the governing board 2021-22

Type of governor/ trustee/ academy committee member:	Name	Office ends	Attendance	Committees/additional responsibilities
Parent & staff	Suzanne Truman	21 March 2022 until 21 March 2026)	90%	Maths and KS2
	Tara Morris	11 Oct 2021 until 11 Oct 2025	70%	EYFS and KS1
	Andrew Widdowson	21 March 2022 Until 21 March 2026	90%	Humanities and Languages
	Siobhain Scanlan	05 Feb 2019 until 05 Feb 2023	80%	Art and DT
	Hannah Charlton	(25 Nov 2019 until 25 Nov 2023	80%	RE and PSHE
Local Authority	Nicola Proud	01 Feb 21 until 01 Feb 25	70%	Vice-Chair, KS2 and English
Co-opted	Jo Dickinson	14 Jan 2019 until 14 Jan	100%	Chair, Safeguarding, LAC, Pupil Premium, SEN

		2023		
	Richard Flint	14 Jan 2019 until 14 Jan 2023)	80%	Resources Performing Arts Sports Premium
	Louisa Quinn	14 Jan 2019 until 14 Jan 2023	100%	STEM Computing KS1
	Vacancy	Vacancy		
Associate	Tracy Townsend	01 Sept 2021 until 01 Sept 2025	90%	
Headteacher	James Foxwell	Ongoing	100%	
Staff	Pippa Jones	21 st July 2022		
Clerk	Mandy Lambert			

You can find out more detail about the work we will undertake for this year in our Governing Body Schedule of works which is available on our website

Our vision for the school – and how we’ll get there

The governing board is responsible for setting the school’s vision and School Improvement Priorities 2022-23. Every year we identify key priorities to further improve our school. As well as the outcomes from our last inspection, we analyse our school results to identify areas for improvement. We also look for any issues which arise through lesson observations, scrutiny of pupils’ books or from discussions with pupils and parents. We also consider how best to respond to local and national initiatives.

The school leadership team and governing board have put in place a strategy in order to achieve this. You can read about our aims for development on this section of the school website at <http://romanby.n-yorks.sch.uk/about-us/aims-and-development/>

The best education for all pupils

The governing board is responsible for holding the headteacher to account for the education of pupils and the management of staff.

As part of its strategy for sustained improvement the school is a member of the Swaledale Alliance and Northallerton Beacon Partnership. Strong partnerships have improved provision and outcomes with joint training activities, moderation and sports events.

Curriculum

Our curriculum helps to develop children as responsible, respectful and active citizens who are able to play their part and become involved in public life as adults. Children are given a variety of opportunities to develop independence, social skills and initiative. They value the school community and are keen to take responsibility in all areas of school life beyond routine lessons. They take their responsibilities seriously as RRSA ambassadors, play leaders, team captains etc. They are proud of the work they do to raise money for local and national charities. These examples demonstrate a strong school community. Our "Secrets of Success" have had an impact on the children's awareness of positive behaviour. Positive learning behaviours are focused upon as part of our weekly celebration assembly.

We have achieved

- Platinum School Games Award.
- UNICEF Rights Respecting Silver Award.
- Gold NYCC Healthy School Award.
- NYCC pilot for "Food for Life" and achieved the bronze award.
- NYCC Attachment Aware Status for our work on supporting children with attachment trauma.
- Silver United Against Bullying award.
- Lead school in a STEM ENTHUSE Partnership.

Outcomes

Over the last few years there have been changes in staffing to improve the quality of teaching and learning as well as strengthen leadership. We have appointed a new deputy Headteacher, a new EYFS/KS1 Leader, new SENCO and several new teachers. New subject leader roles have been allocated for 2022/2023 using a paired KS1/KS2 approach. Staff are more committed to the ethos of the school and in developing a culture for learning. There has been a culture change based on higher expectations for every child. This has had a more positive impact on progress and achievement.

- 89% of the cohort attained a Good Level of Development which is higher than the 2022 national figure of 65%
- The percentage of children achieving a Good Level of Development has been above the national figure for the last three years.
- The percentage of pupils that attained the phonics pass mark in 2022 was 88% in Year 1 and 93% for all pupils by the end of Year 2.
- In KS1 2022 outcomes for reading, writing and mathematics at the expected standard were higher than the national figures.
- In KS2 2022 outcomes at the expected level were all above the national figures. The headline figure for reading, writing and mathematics combined at the expected standard is 74 %, above the national figure of 59%.

SEND (Special educational needs)

The percentage of children with SEND is below the national average (9%). During 2021/2022 we appointed Emma Cable to take on the role of SENCO from September 2022.

Safeguarding

We have safeguarding as an agenda item at every single meeting and our chair, Jo Dickinson leads on this with the headteacher, James Foxwell.

Training keeps staff and governors up-to-date with child protection and safeguarding procedures. In February 2022, the governing body updated their safeguarding training via a webinar with the local authority.

The school promotes a culture of safeguarding by effectively following robust LA guidance e.g. single central record, safer recruitment training, child protection training for staff on appointment, daily absence checks by office staff.

98% of parents who responded to the school's questionnaire during the last academic year say that their children feel safe in school. The climate of the school encourages pupils to openly share their thoughts and to value each other's viewpoints.

Curriculum work builds in opportunities for promoting safeguarding, emotional wellbeing and children's understanding of how to stay safe e.g. Y6 Crucial Crew on personal health and safety, KS2 Bikeability.

Lesson and assembly times are also used to promote safe practice and discuss children's concerns and demonstrate how to seek support e.g. Online Safety.

On average children at Romanby Primary School had a higher score on the Children's Wellbeing Scale than the local authority average and more children had a high or maximum score (a 32% improved trend since 2014).

Behaviour

Governors visit school and observe lessons on a termly basis. Behaviour for learning is good across school with very little low-level disruption due to the consistently good teaching. Learning behaviour has improved following the changes in curriculum provision as well as the implementation of a revised behaviour policy e.g. Use of Marvellous Me app, training on 'Pivotal Behaviour' and more consistent approaches. This has had a positive impact on the learning environment.

Children know of the different types of bullying, particularly racist, homophobic and cyber-bullying. In the Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey more children think that school deals with bullying well (81%) than the LA sample (73%) This is an improved school trend since 2018 and something the governing body aim to continually improve on. In June 2022 the school was given the Silver United Against Bullying award.

Absence and attendance

Attendance is good. Overall attendance has improved from the last census from 96.5% to 97.2%. It remained high during the lockdown periods. Overall absence in lowest 20% of schools (IDSR 2022)

Enrichment activities

The school provides a wide range of opportunities to nurture, develop and stretch children's talents and interests and we enjoy hearing from different subject leads at our meetings. Children participate in a wide range of competitive and recreational activities. It was fantastic to see the positive outcomes in Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey e.g. 95% (87% NYCC) agreed that they know how to get involved in different types of physical activity and sports Sport England's Active Lives Survey 2020 shows positive results compared to national outcomes e.g. 53% of children do 60+ minutes activity every day (43% National).

Monitoring by school staff highlighted that due to the locality of the school more work needed to be done on developing children's understanding of British Values e.g. creating a Y6 residential visit to London and the Houses of Parliament. This has impacted on the children by increasing their respect for other people's feelings and values.

Working with local churches has enabled the children to explore and reflect on contemporary and religious issues e.g. visiting clergy. This has also strengthened the position of the school in the local community.

Children are given a variety of opportunities to develop independence, social skills and initiative. They value the school community and are keen to take responsibility in all areas of school life beyond routine lessons. They take their responsibilities seriously as Rights Respecting School Ambassadors, play leaders, team captains etc. They are proud of the work they do to raise money for local and national charities. These examples demonstrate a strong school community and as governors we are proud of the opportunities the school provides.

Admissions

The school's current admissions arrangements adhere to the DfE guidance. The admission authority is the North Yorkshire County Council. There are currently 275 students in the school.

For the year 2022/2023 there were 28 applications for admission to the reception year of whom all were accepted. The admission limit for this year group is 40.

The school's admissions policy is reviewed on an annual basis by the governing board and full details, including information about appeals, are available on the school website at <http://romanby.n-yorks.sch.uk>.

School finances

The governing board is responsible for overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure that its money is well spent. Improving the long-term financial standing of the school has been a challenge whilst retaining the drive to raise standards. This has involved restructuring classes, changes in staffing and TA hours as well as updating IT and curriculum resources. We are developing an income generation strategy to support future improvements e.g. outdoor area from Tesco funding, IT from Co-op Community Funding, Play equipment from Healthy Child Fund Capital Grant.

On our website you will find a number of useful financial documents to help you learn more.

[Romanby Primary School - Schools Financial Benchmarking - GOV.UK](#)

[Pupil Premium Funding at Romanby Primary School](#)

Ofsted

You can find out more information about our last Ofsted inspection on our website.

<http://romanby.n-yorks.sch.uk/about-us/school-reports/>

Contact us

The governing body welcomes feedback about the school and is often looking for new people to join us, either now or in the future when vacancies arise. If you would like to know more about becoming a Governor at Romanby Primary School please email our clerk, Mandy Lambert at mlambert@romanby.n-yorks.sch.uk.