



## ANNUAL REPORT OF GOAT LEES PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD 2020

All Governors, with the exception of the Headteacher, are volunteers. They are unpaid but can claim expenses. The Governing Board is made up of parents, who have volunteered to serve, a member of staff, and other interested people who can contribute because they have experience in particular skills, eg finance, project management, safety or education.

The Covid-19 pandemic has made the last school year difficult for all concerned. The Governors have been aware of the strain which events have put on the staff at Goat Lees and commend the care and compassion that the pupils have received. Education has not stopped during lockdown but it has made considerable extra demands.

Governor meetings have continued throughout the year with one cancellation and two held virtually. Attendance by governors has been good and we have welcomed three new governors, Jane Hall, a Parish Councillor with education experience, Ian Cooper, who has experience of adult education and Health and Safety and Melanie Fuller a new parent governor.

All governors have specific monitoring responsibilities and may also follow a cohort of pupils as they progress up the school. The school finances are scrutinised by the Resources Committee and governors are satisfied that good use has been made of the money. They are aware that extra demands due to the Coronavirus pandemic will affect the budget.

In January an Ofsted Inspection took place. As part of the process governors were interviewed and their comments contributed to the Inspectors report. At the next Strategy meeting the Headteacher reported in detail and explained future plans. We were pleased that the school had retained its well-deserved GOOD grading and the Ofsted inspector had commented that the children were lucky to attend Goat Lees.

Throughout the lockdown, in terms 5 and 6 governors were able to monitor the work being done by following the excellent website. The Health and Safety Governor aided the Headteacher with a thorough risk assessment and the Parent Governor visited the site during a school day, walked round with the Headteacher and reported to the Board.

As Chairman I received regular updates and the Headteacher provided detailed information at the Virtual Board meetings. Governors were given ample time to question procedures during the formal agenda.

Governors give their time willingly and feel privileged to serve the school. They are happy to talk to parents who should be confident that we do ask questions.

Rita Hawes, Chair of Governors, Goat Lees Primary School