



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

Headteacher: Louisa Wilson

Deputy Head: Rosie Cook

South Gloucestershire Council

'Learning to change the World'
'Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God'
Micah 6:8



Annual Governors' Statement 2021/22

Congratulations all, parents and school team alike, on making it through another challenging school year whilst maintaining your commitment to the wellbeing, education and personal growth of our children.

As a Governing Body our core role is:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the school leaders to account for the educational performance of St Stephen's and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

We have recently restructured our approach by removing subcommittees and instead having more regular full governing body meetings. This is allowing us to make decisions more quickly and better combine our skills.

The highlights of the last year from our perspective have been:

Pupils Achievement

- Despite all the disruption the children have had to work through over the past two years, they have settled back into school fantastically and are making rapid progress. We expect the recent SATs results to show our pupils at, or above, the national average in every area and attendance records are amongst the highest in the region. Thank you teachers and parents for your part in these successes.

Ofsted

- We were delighted that the school maintained its 'Outstanding' rating after the inspection this year. Neither the school team or the Governing Body will rest on our laurels though. Ofsted did highlight areas that could be further improved, such as how the new curriculum fits together, and this is where we will focus our oversight.

SIAMS Inspection

- The school also scored highly in its Church of England inspection this year. The Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) report focuses on the Christian vision within the school and how this shapes the growth of our pupils spiritually and as 'good citizens'.

Getting Into School

- We have all had enough Zoom calls to last a lifetime and are delighted to be getting back into the school. We are planning a program of visits to observe how the curriculum is being taught, as well keeping an eye on vital areas such as safeguarding and special education needs provision.
- In addition we value the views of parents and have been seeking to increase contact through attending events such as parents' evening and new joiners events.

Finances

- The school's financial position remains secure. Careful management in prior years has allowed for additional support to be provided in class to help pupils adapt back to life in the classroom and focus on areas which were harder to teach remotely.

Looking forward

We plan to give particular focus on the development and application of St Stephen's curriculum over the next year, whilst maintaining our oversight of key areas such as safeguarding and finances. A good summary of the school's plan can be found on our website: [school-improvement-plan-2021-22](#)

Contacting the Governors

We always welcome suggestions, feedback, and ideas from parents. Please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office. Minutes of the Full Governing Body are public documents and are available to view on our website: [Governors | St Stephen's CofE Junior School](#)

We hope you all have a great summer, best wishes to those moving up to secondary school and we look forward to seeing everyone else in September.