

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
Brackenhill Primary School
September 2022**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Brackenhill Primary School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding 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.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Brackenhill Primary School was reconstituted in September 2015 and currently consists of:

Three Parent Governors – elected by parents
One Local Authority Governor – appointed by Bradford City Council
One Staff Governor – elected by staff members
One Headteacher – ex officio
Six Co-Opted Governors – appointed by the Governing Body

The Governing Body has a range of skills which includes experience and expertise in:

- Financial Management
- Teaching and Learning
- School Leadership
- Special Educational Needs
- Marketing
- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding
- Performance Management

The Governing Body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance including:

- Monitoring School Improvement/ Teaching and Learning
- Safeguarding
- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Ad hoc standing panels, convened as appropriate, to deal with incidents of pupil exclusion, staff capability and complaints.

Attendance record of governors

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body: attendance being recorded at each meeting and attendance at meetings listed below as a percentage.

Governors are acutely aware that meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that the work of the governing body is effective.

In 2021-2022 the Governing Body and committees have been focussed on working with the Headteacher, the school's manager and all of the staff to:

Ensure the school is safe, secure and sustainable, through: -

Safeguarding

Health and Safety

Making judicious decisions relating to staffing

Celebrating our success and marketing our school across a wide area

Prudent financial management

Working closely with our cluster partners

Reviewing the performance management of the Headteacher and the staff through an effective appraisal system

Reviewing and updating statutory policies

Monitoring the effectiveness of pupil premium and sports premium funding and supporting disadvantaged pupils

In addition, the Governing Body has:

Ensured that teaching and learning is at least consistently good for all pupils and that all make at least expected progress. These actions were achieved despite the additional challenges presented by the pandemic and the corresponding quarantine restrictions.

We have managed this through:

Supporting the Headteacher with monitoring the work of teachers and pupils in the classroom and providing effective challenge.

Examining and challenging internal and external performance and progress data.

Ensuring the judgements of staff and the Headteacher are in line with local and national standards through Local Authority validation

Ensuring that the individual needs of pupils are met through appropriate interventions by scrutiny of data and regular visits by the SEND Governor.

The success of the school and the Governing Body was highlighted following the Ofsted inspection – July 2019. The Ofsted inspection team confirmed that:

‘Governance at the school is strong. Governors visit school regularly. They offer support where appropriate and they have an excellent understanding about the school’s performance. Governors use their expertise effectively. They ask challenging questions to ensure that the school directs resources, including pupil premium and sport funding, effectively to secure further improvement ‘.

In order to ensure Governors have the necessary skills the members of the Governing Body have undertaken training events and course, provided by the Local Authority and external providers – these courses have included:

Networks

OFSTED preparation

School Improvement

Safeguarding

Finance

National curriculum developments and assessment

Availability of approved minutes of the GB – on request from the school office.

Strategic Planning for the Future

The focus for 2022-2023 is to ensure that:

- teachers continue to provide opportunities for girls to further embed their understanding of high-level reading skills so that more achieve the high standard at the end of key stage 2
- teachers move pupils, especially boys, onto more challenging reasoning problems sooner, throughout school

- strategies to improve attendance are developed so that attendance is at least in line with the national average
- provide increased support of children’s learning with the effective application of the central government catch-up funding.

Governors will be undertaking a variety of training including Local Authority networks, Ofsted preparation, school improvement, safeguarding, finance, national curriculum developments and assessment

How to contact your governing body

Information about the school’s governing body is available on the governors’ page of the school website.

Governing Body Membership 2021-2022

Name of Governor	Category	Term of office
Julie Hields (Chair)	Co-Opted	15/07/2023
Sadia Hussain	Parent – Appointed	30/11/2025
Sibgha Batool Shah	Staff	20/04/2024
Fiona Cooper	Parent – Appointed	04/02/2024
Nair Ishtiaq	Headteacher	N/A
David Young	Co-Opted	15/07/2023
Maryam Iqbal	Staff	Resigned 11/05/2022

Governors’ Attendance Record for 2021-2022 (%)

Name of Governor	Possible	Actual – Percentage (%)
Julie Hields (Chair)	15	15 100%
Sibgha Batool Shah	10	8 80%
Fiona Cooper	15	6 40%
David Young	15	15 100%
Nair Ishtiaq	15	15 100%
Sadia Hussain	15	2 13%