

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of  
The North & South West Durham Learning Federation 2018-19**



The Governing Body of The North & South West Durham Learning Federation has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

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

**Governance arrangements**

The full Governing Body meets once each term and also have a number of committees which also meet termly to consider different aspects of the school in detail. The North & South West Durham Learning Federation has a Personnel Committee, a School Committee, a Community Committee, a Finance Committee and a Children's Committee. We also have a Pay Review Committee which meets annually and committees which could meet if necessary to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters. Full Governing Body meetings and all committee meetings have pre-arranged agendas which ensure that all of the terms of reference of the Governing Body are met. Governor committee meetings are all minuted and a Governor reference file is kept in each school.

In addition to their committee membership, most Governors at The North & South West Durham Learning Federation are also linked to subjects or aspects of the school. They visit the schools during the autumn and summer terms to meet with the co-ordinators of their subject or aspect to monitor progress and ensure that they have first-hand knowledge of the school. Link Governors provide a written report to the full Governing Body following their visits.

A list of Governing Body members 2018-19 and their responsibilities is attached. Governors have a wide spread of knowledge and expertise and are part of committees which utilise their skills. There are 16 Co-opted Governors, 1 Local

	<p>Authority Governor, 1 Staff Governor, 1 Executive Headteacher Governor and 7 Parent Governors.</p> <p>Attendance at meetings is excellent for both Full Governing Body meetings and committee meetings and we have never had to cancel a meeting because not enough Governors were in attendance.</p>
<p><b>Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body</b></p>	<p>The Governing Body of The North &amp; South West Durham Learning Federation has fulfilled its statutory duties in terms of monitoring all areas of the schools' work and offering support and challenge through the agreed agendas of each committee and the agendas of full Governing Body meetings. The following areas have been of particular note this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing further links across the federation, including shared training.</li> <li>• Agreeing and monitoring the use of Pupil Premium funding, PE and Sports Premium funding and Year 7 Catch-up funding (this is available on the relevant schools' websites) and evaluating the impact.</li> <li>• Reviewing statutory policies and ensuring that the schools' websites contain all necessary information for parents.</li> <li>• Recruitment of new staff needed in all three schools ensuring safer recruitment procedures are followed.</li> <li>• Monitoring the impact of key initiatives that have been implemented in each school including the International Primary Curriculum, Progression and OPAL (Croft), The Schools' Mental Health Award, Progression and the Go Read Bus (The Oaks) Evidence for Learning, coaching and teaching triplets, introduction of Personal Learning Teams (Evergreen).</li> <li>• Monitoring of pupil progress across all three schools including the impact of interventions.</li> <li>• Improvement of the school environment including a new classroom at Croft, a new discrete classroom for pupils with ASC at The Oaks and the provision of a Forest Schools area at Evergreen.</li> <li>• Ensuring safeguarding policies and procedures are in place, are being applied rigorously and that training is effective and complete and complies with the law.</li> <li>• Adding Croft Community School to the existing federation in September 2018, merging the Governing Bodies and introducing a new leadership structure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment of Impact</b></p>	<p>Governors provide a high level of challenge to the Executive Head Teacher and the schools. They consider a range of documents and data provided by the schools in order to judge the impact of strategies within both schools. In addition, Governors visit all three schools during the autumn and summer terms to meet with co-ordinators of subjects or aspects to gain further information. The schools' Education</p>

	<p>Development Partner provides notes of visit which are considered at Governing Body meetings.</p> <p>Governors monitor finance stringently to ensure that the schools' budgets are spent to achieve the best possible outcomes for learners.</p>
<b>Contact Details</b>	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr. Clive Hubery c/o any of the school offices.</p> <p>Details of The North and South West Durham Learning Federation's Governing Body are on The North and South West Durham Learning Federation website.</p>

**Members of The North & South West Durham Learning Federation Governing  
Body  
2018-19**

Mr. C Hubery BEM	Co-opted Governor	Chair of Governors Member of Community Committee Member of Finance Committee Member of Personnel Committee Member of School Committee Member of Appeals Committee HT's performance management
Mrs. M Smith	Co-opted Governor	Chair of Finance Committee Chair of Personnel Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee HT's performance management
Mrs. L Kipling	Co-opted Governor	Member of First/Pay Review Committee
Mrs. C Elsbury	Co-opted Governor	Member of Finance Committee Chair of School Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee
Mrs. F Wood OBE	Co-opted Governor	Member of Personnel Committee Member of School Committee Member of Appeals Committee
Mrs. A English	Executive Head Teacher	Member of all committees
Mrs. J Arnott	Parent Governor	Member of Finance Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee
Mr. S Gray	Parent Governor	Member of Finance Committee

Ms J Benson	Co-opted Governor	Member of all committees
Mr. P Bodo	Parent Governor	Member of School Committee Member of Appeals Committee
Mrs. M Farrow	Co-opted Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of School Committee
Mr. R Patel	Co-opted Governor	Vice Chair of Governors Member of Finance Committee Member of Personnel Committee Member of Community Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee HT's Performance Chair of Children's Committee
Mrs. B Richardson	Staff Governor	Member of Community Committee
Mr. H Wilkinson	Co-opted Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of School Committee
Mr. S Bowron	Parent Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of School Committee
Mrs. J Curtis	Parent Governor	Member of School Committee Member of Appeals Committee
Mr. L Davis	Co-opted Governor	Member of all committees
Mr. H Embleton	Co-opted Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of Community Committee Member of Appeals Committee Member of Finance Committee
Ms. J Hawthorn	Co-opted Governor	Member of Personnel Committee
Mr. G McCallum	Parent Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee Member of Personnel Committee Member of Finance Committee Member of School Committee
Mr. N Morris-Clarke	Co-opted Governor	Member of Children's Committee Member of Personnel Committee Member of Appeals Committee
Mrs. J Nicholson	LA Governor	Member of Personnel Committee Member of Community Committee Member of First/Pay Review Committee Member of Finance Committee

Mr. M Tweddle      Co-opted Governor Member of all committees

Mr. D Walker      Co-opted Governor      Member of Finance Committee  
Member of Appeals Committee

Mr. G Thompson      Staff Governor      Member of Children's Committee