

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
Montalbo Nursery & Primary School
2019-20

School Vision / Mission Statement

All staff and governors at Montalbo are committed to providing the best possible education for our children. Our aim is to maximize the potential of every child in school by striving to give them a broad, well balanced, cultured and creative education. Most importantly, we want our children to enjoy school. While academic progress is valued and important to us, Montalbo is about more than that. We **endeavour** that all our pupils **collaborate** effectively with each other and members of the community. We believe they should be happy and confident members of society - **inspirational**, skilful and well able to reach out to the wider world to change lives for the better. We pride ourselves on the positive working environment in the school - visitors often comment on the lovely atmosphere between children and staff, the respectful nature of the children, and the superb relationships.

The Governing body of Montalbo Nursery & Primary School provide strategic leadership and accountability in school. We have a strong focus on the key strategic elements identified from the School Improvement Plan and desire to continuously improve the function of the Governing body in 2019-2020:

1. Governors will hold the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
2. Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure it's money is well spent
3. Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction using the 3 year strategic plan and School Improvement Plan (SIP) as tools to support the Head whilst working towards becoming an outstanding school.
4. Governors will seek to drive improvement in each school function for which they have responsibility. Governors will ensure that they have the correct skills and training to monitor and drive the culture, educational performance, environment, facilities and welfare of staff and pupils to excellence.
5. Hold effective and efficient committee meetings which show direct links to the SIP and demonstrate successful completion of actions - meeting statutory requirements and in line with terms of reference.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body is currently composed of 12 people:

- 1 LA Governor
- 4 Parent Governors
- 5 Co-opted Governors
- The Head Teacher
- 1 Staff Governor

The Full Governing Body meets three times per year, the various sub-committees at least three times per year.

Extra meetings occur throughout the year for Governor areas of special interest such as Safeguarding and Leadership.

Attendance record of Governors

Attendance at Full Governors and sub-committee meetings is recorded on the Governance page of our school website and via our meeting minutes. Attendance levels are very good.

Recent achievements and strategies of the Governing Body for 2019:-

1. Positive feedback from the recent 2019 OFSTED inspection: *'Your governors share your commitment to the school and the wider community. They are appreciative of the significant improvements that have been made in recent years and are keen that these should continue. They demonstrate a strong understanding of many aspects of the school's work and are aware of the effects of additional funding. They have the knowledge and expertise to provide effective support and challenge. They have worked with local authority partners to gain objective insight into performance management processes. You provide governors with regular updates on pupils' progress and they test this out in their regular visits to the school'.*
2. Building works were completed and the site handed over after February half term.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. We have a healthy looking budget for 2019-20. 4. Parent Pay has been implemented – there are still some teething problems. 5. Opening of Montalbo Railway Heritage Garden 6. 2 full time permanent positions filled by Mrs Patterson and Miss Bean. 1 temporary post filled by Miss Scott. 2 apprentices are currently being trained in school. 7. New ICT suite fully refurbished and able to have classes of 30 students. 8. Nursery doors and windows updated and installed. 9. Governors refer to the SIP throughout the year during meetings, ensuring the whole school community understands and uses school data to achieve the school vision to run effective and effective meetings. 10. Maintain the program of Governor training. 11. To improve the quality of teaching and learning to increase the number of students achieving above age related expectations in their learning through supporting staff development and ensuring breadth of curriculum via links to the community and business. 12. Support the development of leadership skills. Governors have supported the Head Teacher in funding extra staff to support training. This includes whole school planning days in the summer term for staff. 13. Ensure safeguarding systems are effective and robust. Safeguarding Governor has completed LAC and Safer Recruitment training. Safeguarding policy reviewed and updated. Safeguarding audit was very positive and showed the school is meeting its statutory requirements.
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<p>Key focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-focus and further develop the role of Link and Special Governors to reflect the current needs of the school identified from the SIP (Governors have booked DCC training based on the specific areas for 2019-20) to ensure current good-outstanding practice is being upheld within the school. • Review governor key skills (ongoing - Governors report new training to the link governor). • Improve and increase monitoring visits and show clear links to SIP (programme of visits planned at Governors governance – 25.09.19). • Complete a programme of Governor training to strengthen the team. • Make Governors more visible and accessible to the wider school community by publishing a 'who's who' of governors and a Governor newsletter ½ termly. • Appoint a temporary Deputy Head Teacher to cover maternity leave. • Plus other from 3 year strategic plan
<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>Details of the Governing Body are displayed on our school website. Please contact the Chair of Governors via our school office or via email address s.odoherty@durhamlearning.net</p>