



## **St George's School Governing Board Annual Report 2017**

The Governing Body, in conjunction with the Headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school and has three core functions:

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



Our Governing Body holds our children's best interests, both academically and pastorally, at the heart of all their decision making. We enjoy making regular visits to the school, to support the children, parents and staff. We value our links with St George's Church and the wider village community. We have a very active role in the Stour Education Partnership, our School-led Improvement Group, and we collaborate with other small schools to provide challenging opportunities in sport and other enrichment activities.

Through this provision of a wide range of extra-curricular activities and sporting challenges we aim to inspire and nurture every child to develop excellence in their own skills for future life.



The governors are very pleased to share some of the schools highlights for 2017:

- 94% of our Year 1 pupils reached the expected standard in the Phonics Check, well above the National Average
- The percentage of Key Stage One pupil exceeding the Expected Standard in Writing and Maths was above the National Average



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- Over 50% of our Key Stage Two pupils achieved the higher standard in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, well above the National Average
- The percentage of Key Stage Two pupils achieving the expected standard and the higher standard in Maths was above the National Average
- The PTA organised a full calendar of events for children and parents, raising over £6000 for the school and contributing to many projects and initiatives over the year



- The school achieved a 'Good' grading in the Church Schools SIAMS inspection. The inspector noted how well the school community has managed the numerous changes in staffing and leadership in recent years. Many aspects of our school ethos and practice were celebrated, with the following key strengths identified:

- The school's explicit and inclusive Christian values are lived out by the whole school community regardless of background. This leads to strong relationships and supports pupils' very good behaviour
- A strong, whole school approach to collective worship with representatives of the school and church working together in planning the programme. This contributes significantly to the school's Christian ethos and values.
- Senior leaders and governors have a deep and shared vision for the school which means that staffing changes impact less as a result of well-established whole school systems



- We put on two very successful theatrical performances: 'Hey Ewe' by Key Stage One and 'Shakespeare Rocks' by Key Stage Two





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- The Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a fantastic residential trip to Calshot, Hampshire, where they experienced a huge range of adventurous activities such as kayaking and walking the high ropes
- We enjoyed working with St George's Church throughout the year and attended church for celebrations and festivals, including our own Holy Communion Service. Pupils also took part in the Flower Festival and helped to trial the new 'Church Explorer' quiz for children.



We acknowledge the continued support and enthusiasm of our school community and above all appreciate our dedicated staff team, led by our Headteacher: teaching staff, office staff, support staff, Midday Assistants, cooks, caretaker and of course our invaluable volunteers.