



Spring 2024

Looking Ahead to Summer Term 2024

The Governing Body at Poverest Primary School would like to thank all, staff, parents/carers/guardians and children for their hard work and efforts during the Spring Term.

The Work of the Governing Body

An important aspect of Governance is to ensure we see first-hand the decisions being made by the school leaders and the positive impact they are having on School Development.

Governors have been reflecting on a busy school year so far. Since September, there have been three full Governing body meetings, four sub-committee meetings: 2 reviews of Behaviour for Learning, including Behaviour, Safeguarding and Attainment as well as two resources meetings to review school finances and health/safety.

In our role as 'critical friends' we have asked questions to clarify, understand and challenge the school leadership team. A key priority has been comparing the school's performance data, development plans and discussion about how the pupil premium grant is spent to ensure the best possible outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.

We have been hearing from Mr Haylock about the current challenges of teacher recruitment and how the leadership team are working hard to ensure that every class has consistent high-quality teaching.

Wellbeing

Governing boards have a statutory duty to promote the wellbeing of children, including mental health and emotional wellbeing. It is well known that mental health and wellbeing influence the physical and social health, attainment and success of children and this is a consistent focus throughout our link visits. They also meet and talk with pupils to understand their received experiences.

We also have a duty of care towards all Poverest staff in relation to their wellbeing. Poverest caring ethos and environment will have a major impact on the wellbeing of its staff, but it is vital for the leadership team to continue to build a culture of trust where staff feel valued, can be open about their health and wellbeing and know how to access support if they need it.

Other Governor Work

During the Spring Term Governors have made many school visits, linked to the following areas: Safeguarding, SEND, Health & Safety of the school, Teaching and Learning, including EYFS provision; and the More Able Children Governor Research Programme.

Some Governors have undertaken Learning Walks and Book Looks, as well as meeting subject leaders. All Governors continue to report back to the Governing Body and Leadership Team regarding their findings.

During the Ofsted Inspection last term 8 Governors attended the Question-and-Answer discussion focus group linked to Governance of the school. Additionally, 8 Governors attended the feedback findings of the two- day Inspection. Mr Haylock, will provide parents/carers/guardians the full report when it becomes public.



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Michael Parker, is the named representative for the Governing Body who attended the Spring Term Parents Forum. Our Parent Forum allows for an interchange of views and information. Please ensure that you are represented so that all issues impacting on your children's education and welfare can be addressed.

Sue Tysall met the School Improvement Team in February to review SEND within the school. The School Improvement Partner was pleased with what she witnessed, both in the Provision and the mainstream part of the school, in relation to SEND. It was great to have met some of the SEND children from the mainstream. They discussed their experiences at Poverest and what they like about the school.

Governors seek to attend as many school events as possible. We are very grateful for the active support provided by all members of Friends of Poverest.

Attendance

Attendance is a big focus for Poverest. If your child is not in school, they cannot learn. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and restrict appointments where possible to out of school hours. If you have any concerns about your child or would like advice on attendance, please speak to the school office or Mrs Wilson - our lead for school attendance.

School Development Plan

Poverest continues to evaluate its SDP. This is a key document, which has been reviewed and validated by the governors. This document takes an incredible amount of work from all the staff, it is vital to the schools' review of their targets, achievements and future plans, and an essential document in preparation for the recent Ofsted Inspection.

AFACT

We have been impressed with the collaboration between our **AFACT Schools** and their Headteachers. They meet fortnightly together to support the further development of our trust. Additionally, there are so many opportunities for Poverest staff to link up within other staff within AFCAT for professional development opportunities.

We look forward to working more closely with our AFACT partners during the summer term. We will be getting together with the other Governing Bodies to share ideas and learn from each other, completing some joint training, working to embed collaborative values across all Governing Bodies and Schools as a team.

Our school leaders

As Governors, it has been fantastic to see Mr Haylock to continue flourish in his new role with him being ably supported by Mrs Wilson (Deputy Head) and the schools new extended leadership team. As well as running the school day-to-day, all the leadership team have been working on developing areas of our school curriculum with subject leaders, ensuring that high academic standards are raised further. We continue to work together to promote "Sustainability" both within the current curriculum, and also through extension initiatives. It is encouraging to see everyone working so well together and to hear how passionate and ambitious everyone is.

As a Governing Body we continue to enjoy the weekly newsletter by My Haylock and his team. So much goes on within Poverest to enrich the education of all our children, and along with DOJO, it is rewarding to celebrate success and to receive ambitious and passionate feedback from Parents/Carers/Guardians.



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Parking

Governors continue to closely monitor the parking situation outside our school gates. We advise and strongly encourage parents/carers to comply with parking regulations for the safety of all our children and local community. We also encourage our children to walk to school, thus supporting environmental sustainability. Remember, we are role models for our children.

Parent Survey

The Governors were delighted to see the number of Parents/Carers who completed the Parent Survey linked to our recent Ofsted visit. Surveys act as a tool to support the school and the Governors on how Parents/Carers/Guardians view Poverest.

Getting in Touch

Parents/carers and staff are welcome to contact the Governing Body directly.

Letters to the Governing Body should be addressed to the Chair and delivered to the school office.

Alternatively, please email stysall@poverest.co.uk and address your correspondence for the attention of the Governing Body.

With Best Wishes from your Governing Body.