<u>**Southall School**</u>

<u>**Governors' Report March 2020**</u>

This is an Annual Report by Governors aimed at informing the whole school community of our work during the last year and our plans for the future. Mrs Martin, the Head Teacher, has now been in post for two years and in that time Governors have been involved in discussions and many aspects of school life.

<u>**Who are we and what do we do?**</u>

We are a highly committed group of individuals who work as volunteers to support the school. Our role as a Governing Body is to act as a critical friend, supporting and challenging school leaders to ensure the vision of becoming an outstanding school is achieved. Our aim has been to develop a Governing Body who can work effectively at all levels. We meet twice a term as a full Governing Body to discuss all aspects of school. The Head Teacher's report is a focus for these meetings, allowing us to challenge the school leadership and monitor progress. Governors also visit school and support school events, work in small committees to monitor policies and finance and perform a range of other duties as required. Governors' expectation is that teaching will be good to outstanding and our visits and meetings allow us to monitor and challenge whilst ensuring we and the school meet the statutory requirements set by Ofsted.

The website is an important place for parents, carers and the wider community to be able to gather information about the school and this is regularly monitored by Governors to ensure that it is up-to-date with information and events.

As Governors, we are continually updating our skills and knowledge in response to the school's challenging needs and government guidance. Over the last year, Governors have received training in:

- GDPR
- Child protection
- New Governor Induction training
- In-house financial training
- The new Ofsted framework

We have completed a skills audit to identify our own skills. As a small Governing Body, we have taken the decision that all training should be inclusive and involve the whole Governing Body, thereby ensuring the skills and knowledge of all Governors is current and relevant and more cost-effective.

At each Governors' meeting, we invite a member of staff to give a presentation about their work and any initiatives they have developed for their curricular area or whole school monitoring.

What have we done in the last year?

- We have worked closely with Mrs Martin and senior leadership, discussing all aspects of school life.

- We have increased the size of the Governing Body to accommodate additional members to provide an effective link between school, families and industry.

- We are now at full strength, with a membership who are active and involved and bring a wide variety of strengths to the team.

- Governors have been actively involved in enterprise days, lunches, events and regular meetings with staff, senior management and representatives from the Local Authority.

- We have developed committees to work closely on financial matters, monitor policies, health and safety and the web site.

- The Chair and Vice Chair have participated in quality assurance on a termly basis.

- We maintain our links with Ironbridge Rotary Club and other local bodies.

Looking ahead …………… it is our aim to:

- Continue to work closely with Mrs Martin and senior management to ensure outstanding leadership and management of the school.

- Continue to be a hard-working and involved Governing Body.

- Extend and develop community links.

- Work closely with PTA to help wherever we can.

- Continue to develop our skills and knowledge for the benefit of the school.

- Continue to monitor progress and finance closely on a regular basis.

- To work closely with the Local Authority to develop and enhance provision for students across all ages.

And finally ………….

We recognise that we represent the wider school community and we will continue to listen to your views. It is important to us as a Governing Body that staff, parents, carers and

students feel confident to communicate with us in an open manner and to bring any concerns to us.