

Stockham Primary School



Governing Body

Annual Summary to Parents

2022-2023

Summary on behalf of the Governors

It has been refreshing and enjoyable to finally be back to a 'usual' year at Stockham. Over the last year we have welcomed new staff members, pupils and governors to the school as we continue to grow and evolve as a school community. On behalf of the Governing body, we would like to say an enormous thank you to all staff at Stockham School for working so diligently to support our children over the last year. As you may be aware, since our last Ofsted inspection in March 2019, the framework through which Ofsted rates schools has changed. One of the major changes is reflecting on a broad and balanced curriculum which demonstrates continuous progress in learning as children move through their years in primary school. Over the last 2 years, the staff have worked tirelessly to evolve the curriculum in school to meet these changing needs whilst ensuring that we remain true to our school vision and values. The changes that you will have seen in the term topic webs reflect our key learning drivers which as a school we want our pupils to explore and understand: 'curiosity', 'knowledge of the wider world', and 'aspirations'.

“Stockham School will inspire life-long curiosity, develop knowledge of the wider world and equip each child with the skills and aspirations to make the most of every opportunity; shaping their future and the communities around them”

That said, our vision is more than the curriculum that our pupils are taught, it is the broader experiences and opportunities that the school strives to provide that help our pupils leave as well rounded, polite and considerate young people, ready to face the challenges ahead. Certainly as my child leaves Year 6, the role that Stockham has played in her personal development is clear to see. As governors and staff we have been looking across our four key priorities to ensure that we are able to make steady progress in all areas.

1. To excel in providing a cohesive, progressive and deep broad and balanced curriculum that reflects a diverse world.
2. To foster a culture of nurture and respect across the whole school community.
3. To ensure all pupils benefit from a whole school progressive and embedded approach to building cultural capital.
4. To integrate sustainability throughout the school providing experience for pupils to engage with the natural environment.

Wellbeing remains a core consideration for the school, despite being a couple of years beyond the height of the Covid pandemic, the challenges that young people face from that time continue to

impact on their school life and learning journeys. We are lucky to have a range of external support to draw on, and the addition of parent sessions run by our SENDCo this year have been invaluable to a number of families.

Once again, we have been extremely lucky to have the support of Friends of Stockham, who have organised a number of events allowing the whole school community to come together whilst raising much needed funds for school. I'm sure that the teacher strikes during this year have not bypassed many of us, and we have been very fortunate that due to the dedication of our staff, we have not had to close the school at any point. Budgets for schools remain incredibly tight, and as governors we are very conscious of the balance that our families have to make in prioritising household bills and contributions to school activities. As a school we are always looking at ways to ensure that activities are as cost effective as possible and balancing this with ways of increasing our income so that we can continue to provide the opportunities to all our pupils. We met with David Johnston, our MP, in May to discuss the challenges around school budgets in more detail.

Governors at Stockham Primary School

Changes to the Governing board at Stockham Primary School

Over the last year, we have welcomed a number of new governors to our board. Chris Norris joined as a parent governor in February and Karen Thornett very recently in June. Both Chris and Karen have a number of children in Stockham and are looking forward to working with the school.

Ian Wallis joined us in April as a co-opted governor. Ian lives locally and has experience in HR and Operations in a number of different industries. We are looking forward to working with them all over the coming years. Sadly, we said goodbye to Rebecca Sheather and as she stepped down from the Board earlier in the year. More recently, Jan Butler, who has been Vice Chair for the last 2 years in stepping down at the end of the school year, at which time, after 6 years as a governor I am also leaving the Board. I'd like to thank Jan for all her support over the 4 years she has been with us, joining just before the pandemic was no easy feat! I would like to thank all Governing body members for their commitment and contributions to the board this year, and I know that the school will continue to be in good hands in the future as Ian Wallis and Fiona Henderson take on Co-Chair roles, ably supported by Katy Radburn-Smith as Vice Chair.

As governors we are always happy to hear your thoughts on the school, please do say hello if you see us in the playground or at school events, or we can be contacted via the school office.

We wish you all a lovely summer holiday, and look forward to seeing you next year. I would like to end by thanking Stockham for making me so welcome over the last 7 years. I shall certainly miss the family that I have here.

Jo Wilkinson

Chair of Governors