

Annual Governance Statement

Annual Governance Statement for the Local Governing Body of Stalham High School
September 2024

School Vision/Mission Statement/Aims

Our core purpose at Stalham High School is to Inspire, Educate and Empower students in all they do. Inspiring them to enjoy learning, reading, to work hard as a team and as individuals. We provide a holistic education that helps young people to develop their knowledge, understanding, beliefs and character as they enter adulthood and we empower them to be more independent, confident and positive members of their community, wherever that may be.

We are a rapidly growing school with an increasing number of children joining us from outside our catchment area. We provide an excellent range of subjects and qualifications, a wide range of extra-curricular activities and other opportunities including trips and visits across the UK and abroad. We also have high expectations of every student in line with our school values; Responsibility, Ambition, Working Together & Respect.

Stalham High School is part of the wider Synergy MAT ensuring that we can be ‘Stronger Together’ in partnership with numerous other schools within the trust. This collaborative approach enables our school to ensure we are delivering the best we can for our students and staff.

All Trust schools will:

- provide excellent teaching and high-quality inclusive education;
- provide a broad, balanced, equitable, evidence-based curriculum that is knowledge rich and builds sequentially and cumulatively from year to year;
- provide a curriculum that ensures aspiration for pupils and a global perspective;
- provide significant opportunities to learn beyond the classroom;
- know and value every child, and ensure exemplary behaviour;
- build strong links with their community

The Local Governing Body of Stalham High School has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

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

Governance arrangements

- Membership – Currently, two community governors, two parent governors and one staff governor. There are three community governor vacancies. The Head of School is also a governor.
- There are Link Governors for Safeguarding, SEND, Careers, Curriculum & Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Meeting structure – the full governing body meets half termly and link governors meet with the relevant school staff on a regular basis depending on their link requirements.
- Number of meetings - 6 full governing body meetings

Attendance record of governors

Attendance has been good. Below is a link to the attendance data for governors on the school website.

	https://www.stalhamhigh.co.uk/our-school/governance1/
<p>The work that we have done</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic development including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Embedment of the schools vision & values, linked in with student achievement - More strategic and detailed reporting at LGB to ensure better decisions being made in regard quality of education - Clear alignment being brought between LGB and SIDP plans - Increase in number on roll within the PAD from its conception in September 2023, its success in the development of students and the positive integration with the whole school body. • Quality of education – embedment of curriculum re-design, with progress of students being noticeable higher again this academic year, displaying three years of back to back higher progress • Educational performance - examination of departmental reviews and tracking of examination groups and vulnerable students to ensure teaching and learning are reaching required standards. • Monitoring – governors have met with their departmental links and undertaken monitoring of the following areas linked to the SIDP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safeguarding - Attendance - SEND - Staff wellbeing - Careers • Over and above, a thematic monitoring visit was undertaken by governors to examine the English Department was delivering against its curriculum plan and expected outcomes. • Student feedback was obtained by governors as part of their monitoring visits and through attending Student Summits. • Safeguarding is monitored by the safeguarding governor on a termly basis and is a recurring item at all LGB meetings. • Greater visibility of Governors at Parents/Student attended events <p>One of the key areas identified for the year was in the further progression of adaptive teaching within school, with significant improvements being evidenced in the recent OFSTED report where the school was awarded Good across all areas. A nice endorsement recognising all of the hard work being taken by staff and students.</p> <p>Staffing/recruitment continued to be a key focus for the year, ensuring that there was again stability for the students with a noticeable reduction in supply led teaching.</p> <p>The governing body’s actions have benefited the school by ensuring that a highly ambitious curriculum is in place, educational progress is being improved on an annual basis, enabling the school to continue to expand in terms of numbers on role, whilst also ensuring that national issues are reflected in the practice of the school.</p>
<p>Future plans for the</p>	<p>Next year we will:</p>

<p>Local Governing Body</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruit to any governor vacancies - Enhance the communication of the vision, values, curriculum and behavioural expectations (Stalham Way) to be a part of the school and students DNA - Focus our links with the entire SLT via the agreed SIDP - Focus on adaptive learning across the curriculum - Extend opportunities for governor training through Synergy Trust - Receive regular updates on financial sustainability at a time of challenging educational budgets nationally - Continue to review our curriculum model - Focus on attendance, ensuring students are not disadvantaged by a lack of teaching time - Discuss the increase in student numbers at the school and how this can be maintained. - Focus on additional income streams - Creation of a separate Friends of Stalham High School Group to further connect with the community and support the progress within school
<p>How you can contact the Governing Body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. Please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of Local Governing Body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.</p>