



SCHOOLS COMPANY

## Goodwin Academy

### Annual Governance Statement

October 2017

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Local Governing Body of Goodwin Academy

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the Academy and its pupils, and the performance management of staff,
- Overseeing the financial performance of the Academy and ensuring its money is well spent.

<p>About our Academy</p>	<p><b>VALUES &amp; ETHOS</b></p> <p>Goodwin Academy is a vibrant and happy school which strives for excellence in all we do.</p> <p>In order to achieve this, we have high expectations of everyone who joins us and have a set of values and principles that we want you to understand and try your best to uphold.</p> <p><b>OUR VISION</b></p> <p>To enable all young people and adults of all backgrounds to become the best they can be personally and professionally</p> <p><b>OUR MISSION</b></p> <p>To enable all young people of all backgrounds to become world class leaders in the changing world they are growing up in by providing them with the best education opportunities</p> <p>To enable all adults of all backgrounds to become world class leaders in the changing world they work in by providing them with the best developmental opportunities</p> <p><b>OUR PRINCIPLES</b></p> <p>To develop strong foundations for life through the operation of SchoolsCompany schools and delivering school improvement programmes worldwide</p> <p>To ensure learning is about more than qualifications. All children should leave school not only with useful qualifications but also with a belief in themselves and an ability to make a real contribution to their community, their country and influence the changing world around them</p> <p>To ensure the process of learning is a (predominantly) joyful experience for students and staff. Both students and staff should be treated in a way that promotes a sense of trust, honesty and openness</p> <p>To enable students and staff to learn most when structured risk taking is encouraged</p> <p>To seek high quality evidence, which is everything; data should guide our strategy</p> <p>To eradicate disparity in the education sector and close the poverty gap</p>
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	<p>To ensure the financial status of any parent is not a barrier to their children’s access to the best education, all children should have equal access to the best education globally</p> <p>To ensure all our adults who will ultimately deliver the Vision and Mission of SchoolsCompany – are valued and cared for as individuals and professionals, providing the best developmental opportunities for them to grow and become the best they can be</p> <p><b>OUR VALUES</b></p> <p>Respect for self, each young person and adults</p> <p>Honesty to challenge and support in a developmental and caring environment</p> <p>Integrity to always do the right thing</p> <p>Resilience to overcome and triumph against the odds and adversity</p> <p>Non-negotiable commitment to self-improve and improve others</p> <p>Trust to know we can rely and depend upon each other</p> <p>Determination to realise and deliver an ambitious vision</p> <p>Compassion for young people who are at the core of everything we do</p> <p><b>OUR SIMPLE DAILY PRACTICE</b></p> <p>The SchoolsCompany ‘PAD’ <b>P</b>assion + <b>A</b>bility + <b>D</b>etermination = GREATNESS</p>
<p>Governing Body Constitution</p>	<p>Since joining the Schools Company Multi Academy Trust, the governance structure has changed and now operates as a Local Governing Board. Above the LGB sit the Board of Directors for the Multi Academy Trust, one of whom acts as a Trust Governor.</p> <p>The LGB constitution is made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Parent governors</li> <li>3 Staff governors (one of whom is the Principal)</li> <li>3 Community governors</li> <li>1 Trust Governor</li> </ul> <p>Membership of the LGB is regularly assessed in terms of skills represented on the Board and we actively seek to recruit governors who can help us to fill any gaps in our expertise. In order to facilitate this, we also recruit associate governors. There is currently a vacancy for 1 parent governor.</p>
<p>Attendance</p>	<p>Governors’ attendance at meetings this last year has been good and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “Quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).</p> <p>You can see a full list of the governors and their attendance at meetings on the school website.</p>
<p>Governing Body Structure</p>	<p>The local governing board meet four times a year. The meetings centre around the governors holding the Principal to account for areas such as SEND provision, Pupil Premium spending, student progress and the quality of teaching and learning.</p>



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	All our Local Governing Board meetings are clerked by a professional clerk. Minutes are available from the Academy office on request.
Effectiveness and Impact of the Governing Body	Effective governance is based on 6 key features. The governors have therefore summarised their activities for the academic year 2016-17 under these headings:
	<b>Strategic Leadership that sets and champions vision, ethos and strategy</b>  The MAT vision of Passion, Ability and Determination has been set by the Trust and the LGB have looked at ways in which they can monitor the embedding of this vision through the Principal’s report to governors and by focussing on implicit and explicit examples of the vision in their visits to the Academy. Strategic planning has focussed on the goal of moving to the single site new build in September 2017 alongside the monitoring of teaching standards and student progress within the Academy. Ways of increasing pupil numbers, particularly those in Year 7, are regularly discussed.
	<b>Accountability that drives up educational standards and financial performance</b> Governors have been very involved in the restructure that has taken place over the year, allowing for the Academy to move forward effectively in the next academic year as a single site premises. Over the last Academic year, governors have focussed on increasing their involvement at the Academy, becoming more involved through the writing of visit reports so that there is more of a collaboration in the information being reported to the Board. Financial performance has been dealt with at Trust Board level over the last Academic year.
	<b>People with the right skills, experience, qualities and capacity</b>  The LGB have been successful achieving consistency in governor membership to the Board. A new Chair was recently appointed to the role and has focussed on improving the level of challenge offered by the Board, whilst offering a good level of support to the SLT and staff. An increase in Governor numbers has been achieved, allowing skills gaps to be plugged. The skills set of the Board is monitored via an annual audit.
	<b>Structures that reinforce clearly defined roles and responsibilities</b>  The LGB have a clear set of delegations to work from and have accepted that these focus their role on student progress and holding the Principal to account for this. Delegations from the Trust Board have increased due to the fact that the Trust are confident in the work of the LGB. Governors have their own portfolios which they use as a focus for their visits and reports to the Board.
	<b>Compliance with statutory and contractual requirements</b>  SEND, Safeguarding and Pupil Premium are held to account through challenge to the relevant reports each meeting. Governors have ensured the Single Equality Plan and Accessibility Plan are in place and are regularly reviewed. These can be seen on the website.
	<b>Evaluation to monitor and improve the quality of governance</b>



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	<p>Governors completed a Skills Audit at the beginning of the Academic Year and this will now be reviewed annually.</p> <p>Governors receive cpd training from Kent Local Authority where required.</p> <p>Governors joining the Board undertake new governor training from KCC. Other individual governor training this year has included Safeguarding level 2, and Prevent.</p>
Contact Us	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents. You can contact the governors via the Academy office.</p>