**Weaver Primary School**

**Impact Statement for 2022**

**Governors’ Whole School Aim**

Enable and empower all members of our school community to follow the school vision and strive to grow confident and independent pupils with a love of learning, a strong sense of self-respect and empathy towards diverse cultures and faiths.

At the Weaver, we value these things:

* A happy, safe, welcoming, inclusive environment where everyone is special, where effort is rewarded and success is celebrated
* Self respect and respect for others, good manners, honesty, co-operation and friendship
* The development of independence and the realisation of academic, physical, emotional and social potential
* The generosity of all those who contribute to the school
* Clear, fair, consistent rules that promote understanding and respect.

**Governors’ Role**

The role of the Governing Body is an intrinsic part of the leadership of the school. This impact statement is one way in which the Governing Body articulates their role in school leadership and the impact we have had on school improvement. The Governing Body is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers, who invest a huge amount of good will, hard work and time for the sole purpose of improving the education of every child in our school. The Government expects us as your Governing Body to be a dynamic group of highly skilled individuals who focus on supporting the Headteacher and all the staff to shape the strategic direction of school. As Governors, we are accountable for the performance of our school and we are measured by three core strategic functions:

• Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction

• Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils

• Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure the money is spent well

Governors work co-operatively with the Headteacher and senior management in the monitoring of the School Improvement Plan. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) sets aims for the forthcoming year. The current SIP is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SIP is set out with clear aims, the key tasks that will be completed in order to achieve these aims and the success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SIP is monitored and reviewed yearly, with an evaluation overview being completed and presented to governors as part of the Headteacher report.

During this academic year, the main priority for the governing board was to ensure that Mrs Price had an effective plan for helping children recover lost learning from the last few years. The teaching and support staff worked incredibly hard in the autumn of 2021.

Both in and out of school the first priority has been to ensure health and wellbeing, and help the children maintain their readiness to learn. Once the children returned to school, the next priority was to re-establish where each child was up to in their learning, plan learning appropriate to each child’s needs (including booster sessions), and also to reintroduce elements of the wider curriculum that were not accessible under remote learning. Again, we found that parents had done a tremendous job in supporting their children’s learning. The governors wish to thank parents for their remarkable resilience and support during such a difficult time.

All committees have the responsibility for review and approval of a range of policies which are available on the school website. This has been another challenging academic year for governors. Governors were delighted to see all pupils back into school in September 2021, and were pleased with all the measures that Mrs Price and all the staff put in place to ensure the health and wellbeing of staff and children. The majority of governor business was conducted via Zoom or Teams, but link visits have been conducted face to face.

All members of Governing Body have and continue to have significant training. The impact of this is that the Governing Body are kept abreast of their responsibilities regarding the latest requirements and expectations.

Governors attend one full governing body (FGB) meetings each term. In addition, governors meet three times a year as a Finance, Curriculum, Buildings, Staffing Committee. Governors are linked to areas of the School Improvement Plan and have regular visits and meetings with staff to monitor progress against the SIP objectives. Governor visit reports help Governors maintain an appropriate focus, are written and presented at full governing body meetings. The visits and reports impact greatly on the governing body’s ability to effectively ask important questions, support but also hold senior leaders to account.

Governors provide strong support for the Headteacher.  The wellbeing of staff has been a priority and this has remained positive throughout the pandemic. This has resulted in children feeling happy and settled at school and able to focus on their learning at school or with home learning.

The school budget is scrutinised and reviewed in detail at these meetings. On this committee, we have governors with finance skills who review end of year budgets, attend pre-budget meetings and question deficit/surplus balances. Using benchmarking information, the committee scrutinise the effect of pupil numbers on the budget and how this impacts on staffing and resources.

Careful monitoring and planning of the budget by the Finance Committee has impacted positively on subsequent years where budgets have enable the school to have a strong and effective staffing structure to drive school improvements. Governors are aware of the financial impact the cost of living is having on the budget and moving forward.

The Finance Committee ensure ‘best value’ when purchasing items or services. The governors ensure that the school provide three quotes for items or services over £1000. Best value practices have been used for photocopying contracts and cleaning contracts, again ensuring the school is getting a good service and good value for money.

The school governors take the *safeguarding of children* at the Weaver very seriously and undertake all statutory safeguarding responsibilities. There is a designated child protection officer and governors with safeguarding and health and safety remits. The governors ensure that the single central record is up-to-date, a whistleblowing system is in place, and that policies are active in school. Governors monitor vulnerable groups and ensure the school involves the appropriate external agencies (Family Support Worker, School Nurse, etc) where necessary.

Overall, the governing body expects pupils to be polite, courteous, well-mannered; show thoughtful, community-minded behaviour; be happy in school; be motivated and enthusiastic; be able to work in a team; and be involved in extra-curricular activities. Children know how to learn and respect the differences in children’s ability to learn. They also have the confidence to learn and to make a mistake, helping them to achieve the most they possibly can, whilst enjoying a balanced, rounded education.

At Curriculum committee meetings, *weak data* is discussed and followed up. The issue is included on the School Improvement Plan and strategies for improvement are put in place and monitored. Specific areas include : boys’ writing, girls’ maths, the gap between boys and girls, FSM, SEN,Pupil premium and specific cohorts such as those in Y2 and Y6.

The governors have full confidence in the *Senior Leadership Team* in school, who are all very active in supporting the school in the widest sense and are led by a consummately professional, experienced and challenging Head Teacher