



## **Bishop Stopford's School Governing Body Annual Statement**

The governing body agreed the following strategic priorities for 2016.2017

1. To hold the school to account in order to meet student outcomes and progress objectives
2. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
3. Aim to secure long term financial security for the school
4. Ensure that there is a strategic 5 year programme for premises and infrastructure upkeep
5. Evaluate the skills of the governing body (skills audit)

### **Student outcomes and progress**

Extremely comprehensive reports have enabled the Academic and Pastoral Committee to monitor outcomes and progress effectively throughout the year. Governors know the actions taken to address areas of underperformance and have questioned the impact of these. Provisional exam results show that students made very good progress in applied general level 3 qualifications with encouraging performance in the reformed maths and English GCSEs.

### **Student recruitment**

The strategic partnership work with primary schools is having a positive impact on recruitment to Y7, numbers have increased again in 2017.

The EAL provision is now well established and has increased numbers in all year groups. Local authority support, moral and financial, is key to its success. Y11 EAL students are able to progress to appropriate courses in our 6<sup>th</sup> form, we expect this to further increase Y12 numbers over time.

### **Financial security**

The local authority has agreed a financial management plan for the school. Termly meetings between LA officers, the diocesan board, Chair of Governors, Chair of Resources Committee, Headteacher and Business Manager have ensured meaningful dialogue about long term financial viability. The Resources Committee continues to monitor the budget carefully to ensure the school remains within the limits set in the plan and to make further savings wherever possible.

The diocesan board continues to support in marketing and promoting the school, including jointly facilitating the governing board to revisit its aims for the school and key messages.

### **Premises and infrastructure**

Outstanding matters have been addressed and further improvements made to premises and infrastructure, for example refurbishment of more toilets and installation of improved railings to stairways.

Establishment of a 5 year plan will be a priority for 2017/18.

### **Skills audit**

The audit was completed in the spring term and its outcomes used to determine the skills the governing board should look for in potential candidates to fill vacancies. Also to inform training needs.

September 2017