



Bishop Stopford's School

Governing Body Annual Statement September 2020

Vision

Believe Strive Succeed

1 Corinthians 12:12

'the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body'

Our vision is to provide an outstanding, inclusive and aspirational education for all our children. We believe that everyone in our community is capable of achieving beyond their expectations by living each day in all its fullness, spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and morally. We are underpinned by deep rooted values of respect, consideration, loyalty, responsibility and success.

The governing body agreed the following **strategic priorities for 2019.20**

1. To ensure that the school vision is understood and owned by the whole school community
2. To hold the school to account in order to ensure that:
 - curriculum developments are implemented effectively
 - student outcomes and progress objectives are met
 - student engagement, wellbeing and scholarship develops
3. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
4. To operate within our LA agreed financial management plan

Vision

The vision has become increasingly owned and embedded in the everyday life and language of the school. It features prominently in the school's public-facing messaging. The school's

response to coronavirus and the Black Lives Matter movement are tangible examples of the vision in practice.

Curriculum, achievement and engagement

Reports to committees and the full GB, coupled with governor visits to school during the first half of the year showed governors that good progress was being made in embedding curriculum changes and engaging students. There was evidence of impact in student achievement and progress data.

Provision for remote learning during the pandemic was put in place swiftly and has developed in response to feedback from students and parents. Careful attention was paid to wellbeing so that all students were supported effectively. A recovery curriculum approach has been taken to the full return to school.

Performance at GCSE and A level was set to improve in 2020. Senior leaders ensured that the process for centre assessed grading was robust. The final grades awarded show the expected improvements.

Student recruitment

The established EAL provision continues to increase 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 6th form, and we have begun to see a positive impact on Y12 numbers.

Strategic partnership working with primary schools and promoting the school's achievements within the community continue to raise the positive profile of the school. The external factors over which the school has little control remain a factor, for example changes in the population projections and the opening of new secondary schools. This remains a key priority.

Financial security

The local authority has continued to support the school's long term financial management plan. Meaningful dialogue about long term financial viability takes place through termly meetings between LA officers, the diocesan board, Chair of Governors, Chair of Resources Committee, Headteacher and Business Manager. The Resources Committee has continued to monitor the budget carefully to ensure that the school remains within the limits set in the plan. Significant savings have been achieved in staffing (without the need for redundancies) and on contracts.