



Governing Body Annual Statement 2022.23 and Strategic Priorities 2023.24

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 2022.23**

1. To develop our medium to long term strategy whilst engaging fully with the LDBS response to the Schools Bill (and LA as appropriate)
2. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
3. To operate within our agreed financial management plan

Medium to long term strategy

Governors took note of developments in the national educational landscape, including the withdrawal of the Schools Bill, the cost of living crisis, teacher strikes over pay and conditions, and the lingering impact of the pandemic – including issues of attendance and mental health - particularly on more disadvantaged cohorts.

With these in mind, although the Schools Bill was withdrawn, consideration of the school's unique offer and medium to long term arrangements remained important, and acknowledged the trend to multi-academy trusts and fewer resources.

Dialogue continues with the LA over increased provision in areas of local need and with the Diocesan board over structural set up.

Student recruitment

As for the prior year, the success of the EAL provision continues to increase numbers in all year groups, particularly in KS4, and we again value the local authority's support for this. Y11 EAL students are able to progress to appropriate courses in our 6th form, and this continues to have a positive impact on Y12 numbers.

In line with our vision, our policy of inclusivity also meant a high number of within-year admissions across year groups.

Leaders continue to actively promote the school and its achievements and ethos within the community. The same external factors over which the school has little control remain the key influence on recruitment to Y7 i.e. changes in the population projections and the opening of new secondary schools. This remains a key priority.

Financial management

With the national picture and cost of living crisis described above, sound financial management was ever more important this year.

The Resources Committee continued to monitor the budget carefully throughout the year to ensure that the school remains within the limits set in the plan. The school has now achieved a balanced budget for the past 3 years

and made significant reductions to the deficit. In the 2022.23 financial year, the deficit was reduced by a further £75,000.

Leaders continue to look for additional funding opportunities.

The local authority continues to support the school's long term financial management plan, and engages in regular, constructive dialogue.

Strategic priorities for 2023.24

1. To further develop our medium to long term strategy including:
 - a. Implications of the trend toward MATs
 - b. Post-pandemic reintegration and recovery
 - c. 6th form offer and government direction on T levels
2. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
3. To operate within our agreed financial management plan

September 2023