



Joint Local Board of Christian Malford, Seagry  
and Somersfords' Walter Powell Primary Schools

# Annual Governance Statement

July 2016

In our annual governance statement, we outline the governance arrangements of the three schools, together with an assessment of how well the Joint Local Board has done against its objectives for the year. The Joint Local Board was established in January 2016.



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## Strategic functions

In accordance with the Government’s requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Christian Malford; Seagry and Somerfords’ Walter Powell CofE Primary School’s Local Board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, values and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Executive Principal to account for the educational performance of the schools and their pupils; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the schools and making sure that money is well spent.

<p><b>Governance arrangements</b></p>	<p>The Local Board of Christian Malford, Seagry and Somerfords’ Walter Powell Schools is made up of one DBAT appointed member, four foundation members, four Staff members (including the Executive Principal), three elected Parent members, and three community members. Of the four foundation members two are ex officio (Rev Evelyn Bone and Heather Lee) the other two are nominated by the PCCs.</p> <p>The Local Board meets at least once each short term. We also have three committees to consider different aspects of the schools in detail: a Resources Committee, which focuses on finance and premises matters, a Pay and Staffing Committee and a Curriculum and Standards Committee. The Terms of Reference of each committee can be found on the schools’ websites.</p> <p>Also on each school’s website is a list of Local Board members and their roles.</p>
<p><b>Attendance record of Local Board</b></p>	<p>The Local Board have an excellent attendance at all meetings. No meetings have been cancelled because they were not “quorate” (the number of Local Board members needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made).</p> <p>Attendance records at Local Board meetings and committee meetings are</p>



	<p>published on the websites.</p>
<p><b>The work that we have done on our committees and in the Local Board</b></p>	<p>The Local Board for the three schools was brought together, following consultation with parents and the community, in January 2016. We have been focusing on delivering on the targets set in each of the School's Development Plans.</p> <p>The Curriculum and Standards Committee has spent time looking at the monitoring of progress in an education environment with 'Assessment without Levels'. All schools have been bedding down the new system, which is continually evolving as further information is received from the DfE on how the SATs tests will be marked. There has also been considerable work on reviewing policies across all three schools and aligning them, where appropriate.</p> <p>The progress and the attainment of the children will be reported in the Local Board Update in the Autumn issue.</p> <p>The Resources Committee looks at the maintenance and development of the school premises and makes recommendations to the Local Board and the DBAT Main Board about how the school budget should be set. The Resources Committee is also responsible for Health and Safety at each school and engaged Wiltshire Council this year to support the schools with their Statutory Responsibilities in this respect. They carry out regular checks of the premises with Mrs. Glass and Miss Luter, the schools' business managers. Christian Malford School was successful in its Condition Improvement Fund grant application and is in the early stages of using this funding to replace the Mobile Classroom.</p> <p>Our Nominated Local Board member for Safeguarding, Shirley Palmer, and Executive Principal, Mrs. Rowe, produce a termly report to the Local Board about any safeguarding matters and what action has been taken.</p> <p>The Local Board has recommended to the Main DBAT Board balanced budgets for each of the schools for 2016/17. The income and expenditure of the schools is reviewed at every Resources Committee meeting and tabled at every Local Board meeting. The budgets are focused on maximizing resources to enable staff to deliver the best education to all pupils.</p> <p>The Staffing and Pay Committee is responsible for considering staff</p>



	<p>performance and how this links to pay rises, staffing structures, and staff well-being.</p>
<p><b>Church links to the school</b></p>	<p>It is the responsibility of all Local Board members to uphold the Christian Ethos of the schools. Our foundation members as Church members further encourage us to “partnership with the church at parish and diocesan level” as well as to “encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to its pupils”.</p> <p>The Senior Leadership team has worked with the Local Board to match the Christian Values to our schools’ rules and British Values. This has been completed in Christian Malford and will be brought into practice at Seagry and Somefords’ Walter Powell in September 2016. The children have experienced weekly worship and several church experiences overseen by members of the Local Board, Rev Evelyn Bone, Heather Lee, Julia Harle, Shirley Palmer and Margaret Palmer.</p> <p>Each Local Board meeting begins and ends with prayer.</p>
<p><b>Future plans for the governors</b></p>	<p>The Local Board will be working with the Senior Leadership team to refresh our School Development Plans which will reflect our whole school reviews and include the results of the Parent Feedback Survey carried out in June 2016. The revised School Development Plans will be approved by the Local Board in September 2016 and will drive the focus for 2016/7.</p> <p>We plan to continue to work with our communities and church so that every individual in our school thrives.</p>

### How you can contact the Local Board

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact our Chair of Local Board, Claire Kennedy, via the school office or by sending an email.