



## **CHEDDINGTON COMBINED SCHOOL**

### **GOVERNORS REPORT TO PARENTS 2015**

#### ***Cheddington Combined School Vision:***

*To nurture our children's young roots to enable and empower them to fly as citizens of the 21st Century, who have a fascination for learning and life, by providing excellence in teaching and learning.*

The governors would like to welcome you to a new year at Cheddington Combined School. We hope that you have had time to settle in over the first few weeks.

Last year was yet again busy and successful with our pupils obtaining better than the national average results over most subjects and we aim to keep improving on these statistics.

#### **Governors' roles and responsibilities**

The Governing Body has a legal responsibility for the effective management of the school. We aim to ensure that all new legislation, policy and procedures which are integral to the running of the school are in place. We develop and adapt according to Ofsted requirements.

The governors meet six times a year as a governing body and we meet more regularly as part of smaller committees.

## **Committees**

These committees monitor the operation of the school to ensure that it is in line with our strategy as well as being required to keep abreast of current developments and the implications of new legislation. They report to the full Governing Body, although those with delegated powers are able to make certain decisions in their own right. All committee meetings are minuted and the minutes circulated to all governors.

## **Curriculum**

This committee meets to monitor how the curriculum is deployed within the school to enable each and every child to reach their full potential. It reviews anonymised pupil data to establish whether all groups of children are progressing at expected levels.

All governors are linked with a subject and meet with the subject teacher at least twice a year. These meetings are reported back to the Curriculum Committee to agree the targets and progress within that subject.

On an annual basis the governors and staff join together to evaluate the progress made over the previous twelve months, in meeting the targets agreed in the School Development Plan. Following this discussion, the new Plan for the year ahead is created. The Plan is monitored by the governors throughout the year at Committee and Full Governing Body level.

## **Health & Safety and Premises**

This committee is responsible for the premises, its maintenance requirements and ensuring that all Health and Safety regulations are observed. This involves careful monitoring and regular site visits to ensure that policies and procedures are in place together with ensuring that risk assessments are in place for all school activities, trips and visits.

## **Finance**

This committee is responsible for overseeing the school's budget and ensuring excellent financial competence is in place. It meets regularly to discuss all financial matters affecting the school and monitors how the school manages the school's revenue in accordance with its plans.

## **Personnel**

This committee deals with all staffing issues and staffing policies; it is a confidentially run committee.

## **Marketing and Communications**

This committee monitors the methods of communication between the school, pupils, parents and the wider community. It ensures compliance with Ofsted requirements for the website and takes parents views through an annual questionnaire.

## **Eco Schools**

We are very proud of being awarded our 3<sup>rd</sup> successive Green Flag accolade as recognition of our environmental awareness. The Eco Committee include a number of staff members and associate governors who ensure that the school is up to date with our eco status and who work closely with the children on the EcoTeam to look at the environmental audit and with the JRSO's (Junior Road Safety Officers) to agree the school travel plan.

## **School Development Fund**

The School Development Fund was set up to raise extra money for additional academic items that the school require but are unable to fund through the school budget and this includes software for the pupils such as My Maths, Language Nut and Digimaps. This a governor run fund, outside of the great work done by the PTA, and monthly contributions are made by parents and outside organisations.

In addition to the committees some governors carry out specific roles in certain areas. These include:

**Special Educational Needs (SEN) Governor.** This governor liaises with the Schools SEN co-ordinator and ensures that we are following the Government guidelines for the support of these pupils.

**Pupil Premium Governor.** This governor has responsibility for monitoring how the money given directly by the Government to support these eligible pupils is used.

**Child Protection Governor** works with the school to ensure that the school is carrying out its function with regard to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

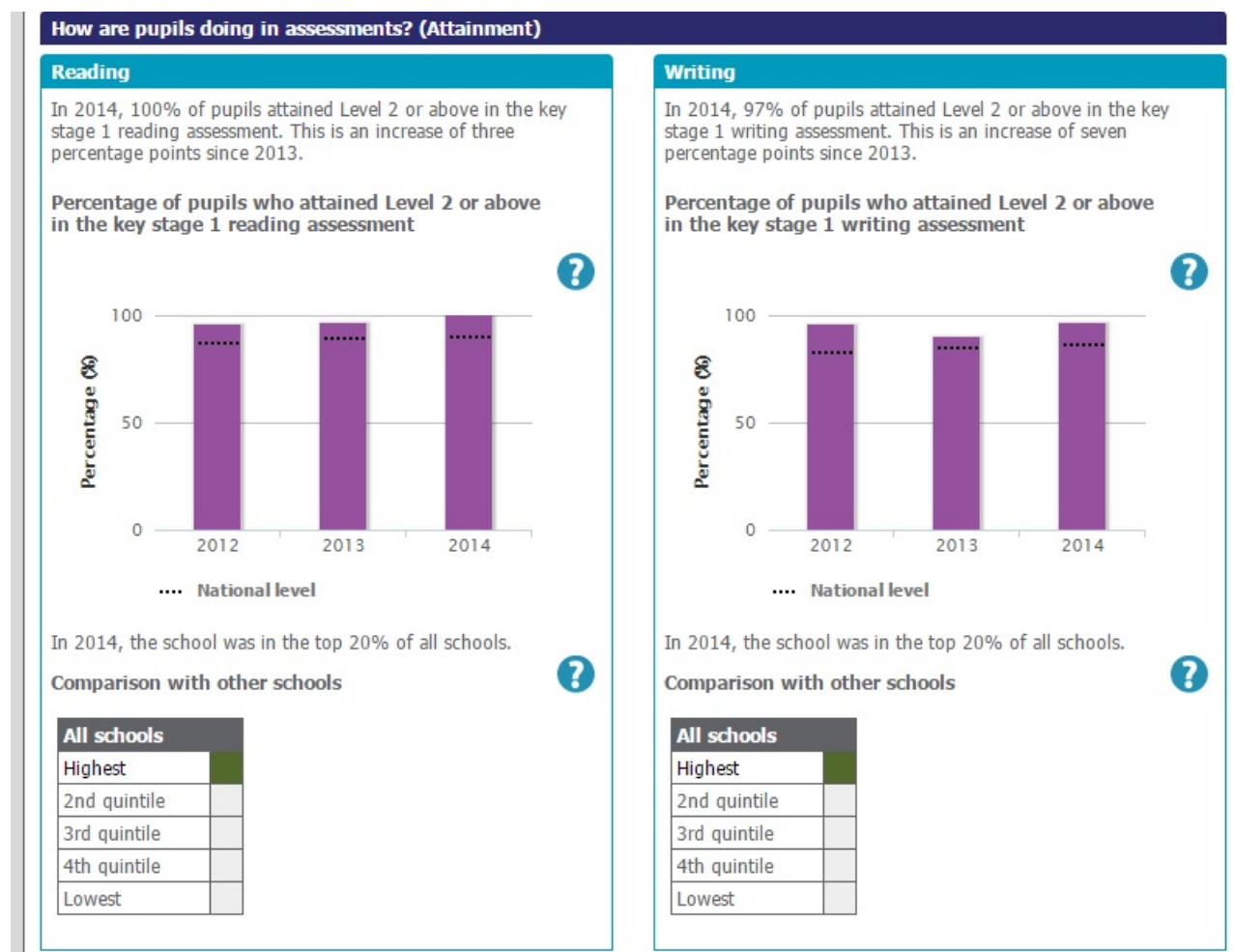
**Development Governor** oversees the training the governors receive to fulfil their varied roles.

The **Chair of Governors** and **Vice Chairs** have additional duties which include the Head Teacher's performance management.

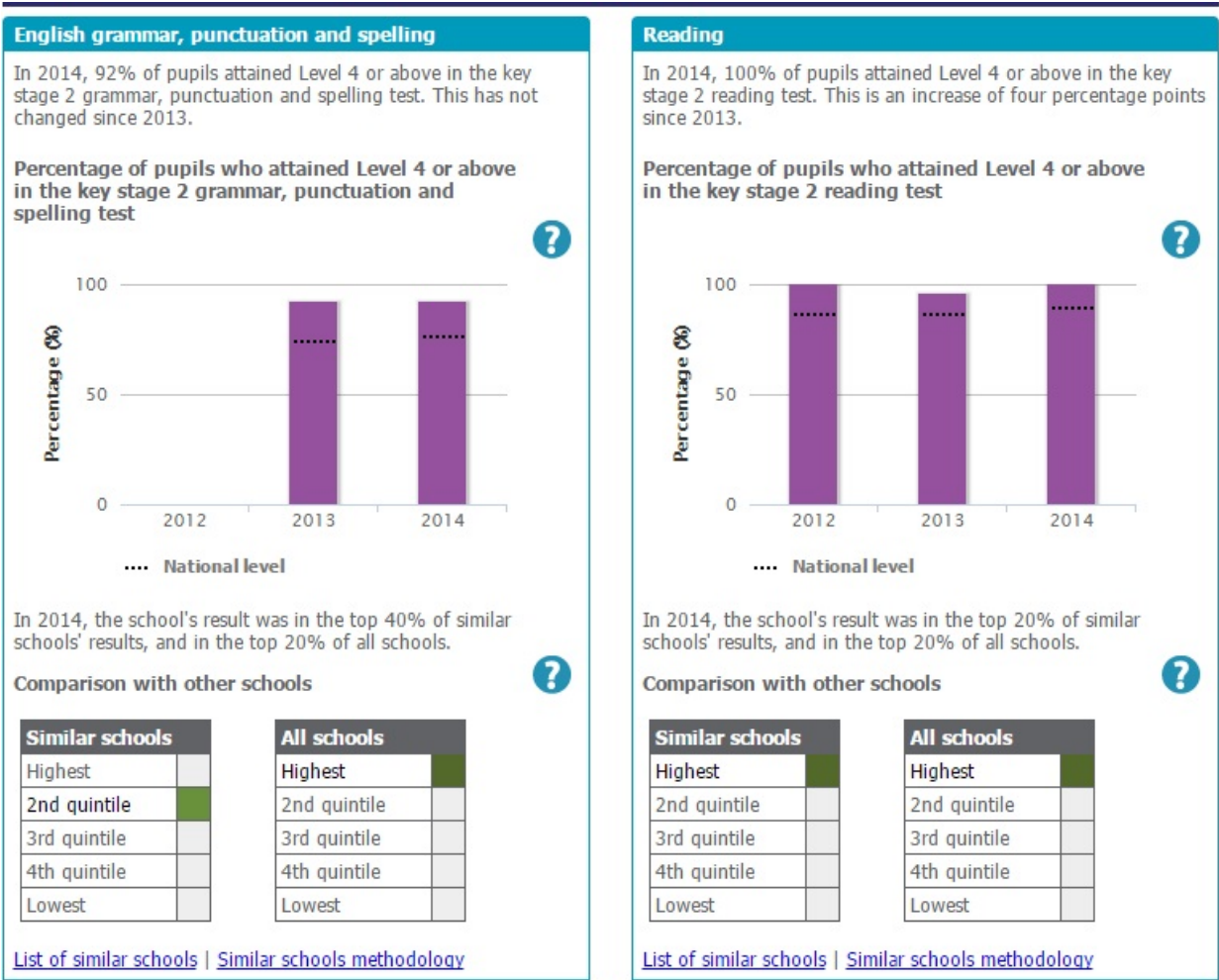
As well as meeting in respect of committee or other general matters, governors also meet with visitors to the school, we attend external school visits with the pupils, we attend school functions and we assist at parents evenings and gardening work mornings.

## What have been our successes for the previous year?

☆**Statistics** - The Ofsted Dashboard shown below shows that our pupils are doing better than the national average as well as the average for similar schools in Key Stage 1 for Reading and Writing



The higher than national, and similar schools, average results continue in Key Stage 2 results.



☆**ECO** - as part of the Safer Speed and Proper Parking Campaign, the EcoTeam worked on an initiative with the Thames Valley Police where JRSO's (Junior Road Safety Officers) partnered with police officers to speak to drivers who were exceeding the speed limit past the school.



Further to the Safer Speed initiative, the pupils spent a forensics day with Thames Valley Police officers to help understand how science can help solve crimes.

The EcoTeam have been instrumental in ensuring that the school achieved its Green Flag status for the third year running.

☆**PTA Computers** - the governing body set up a working group to liaise with the school and the PTA to ensure our new IT equipment was best value for money.

We are eternally grateful to the PTA for the funding they provide – without them we would not have the new computer equipment that now graces our IT suite.



This was a very successful joint effort and provided the school with much need equipment for the staff and the pupils and through careful fund management also managed to supply Wi-Fi throughout the school.



☆**Sport** – The Government have put more emphasis on sport in schools and so we now have a Sports Governor who regularly liaises with the Sports Council.

### **Have you visited the School Website?**

Another remit of the Governing body is to ensure that all information required by law about the school features on the website. The Website is regularly updated and contains statutory information about the school as well as more informal items. Parents can view the weekly newsletter from 3pm each Friday and the Governor page provides details of who we are.

The website can be found at [www.cheddingtonschool.org](http://www.cheddingtonschool.org) .

### **Have you also visited Ofsted Parent View?**

This is an annual questionnaire for Parents and Carers to feedback information. This is totally separate from the Governors Survey which is sent out by Cheddington School. Both questionnaires provide us with valuable information which assists us in maintaining and improving your child's school.

The Ofsted Parent View site can be found at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/7306/current>

### **And lastly, a message from the Chair of Governors.**

I hope you have found our annual report informative and helpful. As partners in your child's education we continually strive to ensure your child receives an outstanding education.

We welcome your feedback both when you encounter challenges and especially to share in your successes. Feel free to put comments in the suggestion box in the reception lobby, on [ParentView](#), or just come and chat to us.

I would like to say thank you to my fellow governors, all of the staff in the school, yourselves for your ongoing engagement with the school and your child's education and most of all to our fantastic children who bring the school to life every day. They make our school what it is, as we help them to prepare for citizenship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**- Rob Johnston**