

## **Governor Impact Statement for St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School**

The School Committee at St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School, have the key responsibilities of monitoring standards and maintaining the Christian distinctiveness of our school. Over the past year, they have worked diligently to support and challenge the headteacher, ensuring that high standards remain a priority and our school's Christian ethos is prominently upheld.

### **Monitoring Standards**

One of the main roles of the School Committee has been to ensure that the school maintains high academic and behavioral standards. They have engaged in thorough analysis of data termly, working closely with the headteacher to identify areas of strength and areas requiring improvement. By receiving detailed reports from subject leaders each term, they have been able to ensure that good practices are consistently evident across all subjects. This continuous scrutiny and support have been pivotal in driving up educational outcomes and maintaining the quality of teaching and learning.

The School Committee has played an integral role in reviewing targets and monitoring progress against the School Priority Milestones. This rigorous oversight has contributed significantly to the successful implementation and monitoring of the School Improvement Plan. Their contributions, based on detailed and regular reviews, have helped to steer the school towards achieving its strategic goals.

### **Supporting Staff and Wellbeing**

Recognising that the consistency of staffing is essential in the continued journey of school improvement, the School Committee have requested termly reports on staffing. These reports have enabled them to ensure that the support for staff remains high, contributing to the excellent staff retention rates we have enjoyed throughout the year. The wellbeing of staff and headteacher has been a priority, and the Committee have consistently raised questions and awareness around this issue to ensure a supportive and healthy working environment.

### **Financial Oversight**

Financial health is crucial for the sustainability of our school. The School Committee has maintained a strategic overview of the school finances, providing support and suggestions for fundraising and leveraging the local community to supplement the budget. They have also brainstormed and implemented ideas for school advertisement to raise awareness and increase enrolment, addressing the challenge of low birth rates in Halton.

### **Promoting Christian Distinctiveness**

The School Committee commitment to the Christian Distinctiveness of St Michael with St Thomas has been evident in their support throughout the year. In the summer term, several committee members attended the school's open morning. This visit allowed them to observe IQ4 and IQ5 of the new SIAMS framework in action, as well as to witness firsthand the school's Christian ethos. They were deeply impressed by the maturity and positivity with which the children spoke about their school experience and the inclusive, supportive environment which has been cultivated.

### **Safeguarding**

The School Committee effectively fulfills its statutory safeguarding responsibilities. All members complete safeguarding training, which is refreshed annually. Through the termly Headteacher Report, members stay informed about the school's efforts to educate pupils on safety, including online safety and protection from sexual abuse. Each term, the Chair of the Committee meets with the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure compliance with safeguarding procedures. To foster a strong safeguarding culture, they ask probing questions and review case studies demonstrating the school's efforts to identify and support at-risk children. The Chair also reviews the Single Central Record and Safeguarding Training Log, ensuring all staff and volunteers have completed Prevent Duty training. Additionally, they hold leaders accountable for addressing areas for development identified in the Trust Safeguarding Audit and Section 175 Audit submitted to the Local Authority. Outcomes are shared with all members during the termly School Committee meetings.

The School Committee has worked to support and challenge the headteacher and staff, ensuring that St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School continues to provide high-quality education within a framework of Christian values. They remain committed to their roles and look forward to another year of progress and achievement.