

St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School Committee Impact Statement 2021-22

This statement outlines the key accomplishments and impact of the School Committee for the 2021- 22 academic year and the strategic decisions that were made to achieve these.

Pupil Outcomes:

Through the School Committee meetings, challenge and support was offered to the school and HT through rigorous discussion regarding internal data throughout the year, which resulted in strong progress of pupils across the school. This ensured that leaders were held to account regarding pupil progress, as well as the committee supporting leaders in their relentless commitment to driving up standards in all areas. This is particularly evident in the continued rise in the Y1 Phonics Screening check to 100%, and GLD and KS1 data being broadly in line with previous national standards for all areas. Where data was due to show a cohort related dip in KS2, the school committee demonstrated challenge in their questioning of how school was supporting these pupils, and how interventions were being employed to ensure all pupils made progress from their starting points.

The School Committee use relevant documents to develop their understanding of the contextual challenges of the school, discussing in detail the new IDSR and the changing context of the school over the last few years. The School Committee used their knowledge of the changing school context to hold leaders to account about the use of the catch-up funding, ensuring that this was targeted in an appropriate way to have maximum input, with detailed discussions taking place about the school strategy for this.

St Michael with St Thomas school committee celebrated the success and impact in the end of year GLD, KS21 and phonics scores, as well as challenging leaders on how the continued drive for improvement in standards will be continued next year.

“The staff’s unwavering determination that all pupils should achieve their potential regardless of barriers is palpable and reflects the school’s motto of “Learn, Achieve, Love, Believe”. Their aspirational and relentless drive to ensure that pupils are given every opportunity to succeed has led to tangible progress across the key stages.” – Keeping on Track SIAMs Report June 2022

Christian Distinctiveness:

This year the school committee has impacted greatly on the development of the Christian Distinctiveness within the school. During school committee meetings, there has been a clear focus on developing the school committee members’ understanding of the Christian Distinctiveness, and what strong practice looks like in this area. This enabled SC members to apply this during open mornings, where they were able to identify how the School’s Christian vision and ethos was evident, and how this was impacting on pupil outcomes. They were also able to offer challenge to leaders in areas where they felt this could further be developed, which led to a review of some practices in school such as how classroom reflection areas were organised.

SC members also ensured a focus on staff wellbeing in discussions, offering support and challenge to ensure that this remained high on the agenda for leaders and evidencing the policies and procedures impact through discussions with staff during the open mornings.

As part of the discussions on developing Christian Distinctiveness in school, the SC discussed the Open the Book initiative and how implementing this in school could further develop school, church and community links. As the incumbent is a member of the SC, this allowed for further examples of where the Church and school are working together to build excellence in this area.

“The vision and the supporting core Christian values infuse every part of school life and underpin all that is done. The commitment to inclusivity results in strong, mutually supportive relationships and affirms every member of this school family as a precious child of God.” – Keeping on Track SIAMs Report June 2022

External Audit:

The two day external review in June 2022 recognised the ongoing improvements being made in the school and the effective leadership of the school to achieve this.

“The headteacher provides a clear strategic vision and direction for the school. She feels that she now has a strong and effective senior leadership team who work well together. The leadership team have clear priorities for this academic year which are reflected in the school improvement plan and self-evaluation document.” - External SIP Report June 22

The SIP recognised that the rising standards in the school is due to leadership at all levels, including the School Committee, and a rigorous approach to ensuring that school leaders are challenged and held accountable for school improvement.

Equality Objectives:

This year, there has been a strong focus on ensuring St Michael with St Thomas is fully inclusive by promoting equality and diversity. The School Committee have made a valuable contribution to upholding this ethos by pursuing clarity of vision and by agreeing the equality aims, objectives and scheme. They have shown curiosity and challenged the status quo to ensure the school fully equips children to gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in, and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. The School Committee are committed to developing children’s understanding of the protected characteristics across the entire curriculum, including during PSHE and RSHE lessons.

“Leaders believe that exposure, not only to culture but also to situations in which the children might not have previous experience of is of paramount importance to their ongoing successes.” – External SIP Report June 22