

School Improvement - Impact Statement

The work of the governing body has had a significant impact on developing the school. Listed below are examples of activities, events, and systems that illustrate the impact of the governing body on school improvement.

- School Improvement Plan (SIP) - Governors are involved in writing and monitoring the School Improvement Plan. They receive reports from the headteacher half termly relating to the SIP and challenge the progress towards achieving improvement.
- Governor visits - The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SIP and of specific subjects. Examples of the impact of these visits include purchasing interactive whiteboards for Reception following a review of their impact on teaching and learning in Key Stage 1 and monitoring the use and impact of new science assessments that were introduced to help give staff confidence when making teacher assessments in science.
- Data analysis - The governors receive a comprehensive annual report on the standards reached by children at the end of Key Stage 1. They identify any key issues, and support the staff in writing and implementing action plans for improvement. An example of this is following the analysis of the 2005-2006 data an issue regarding teacher assessment in speaking and listening at level 3 was identified. Staff put together an action plan for improvement and governors monitored the improvement when the 2006-2007 analysis of data took place. The governors benchmark their data against similar schools, the Local Authority and schools nationally to ensure the schools standards and expectations are high.
- Policies - Governors review all policies annually to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date.
- Financial management - The governors have worked with school staff to achieve the Financial Management Standards in Schools (FMSiS) accreditation. To achieve this the governors have been completing regular internal audits, financial benchmarking and budget monitoring and planning. The impact of the governors' role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively and improvements are effective and continuous.
- Governor expertise - the governors bring a wide variety of expertise to the school and this helps to ensure the school is moving forward. Examples of the impact of governor expertise on school improvement include involvement in the development of ICT throughout the school. This has helped the school to set up its wireless network, introduce a laptop trolley, establish and review the website and develop its ICT strategy for the future.
- Staff recruitment - Governors are involved in the recruitment and selection of staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff are appointed who share the schools mission statement, aims and continual

St Cross Infant School

Governor mark - Impact statements

- strive for improvement. This has been successful with OFSTED grading teaching and learning as outstanding when they visited in October 2007.
- Environment development - The governors have supported staff in developing the external environment for use in learning and play. The excellent use of the outdoors as a teaching resource was praised by OFSTED, October 2007. The governors have also developed the building to make it wheelchair accessible, more secure and more parent/visitor friendly. They have also provided better working conditions for staff as part of their strategy to recruit and retain excellent staff.
 - Continuous improvement - The governing body and senior management team are constantly striving to improve and develop the school. This was recognised by OFSTED in October 2007. The governors have sought external verification to benchmark achievements and improvements against national criteria. The impact of this philosophy means that over the last two years the school has achieved the Basic Skills Award, been reaccredited as an Investor in People, achieved National Healthy Schools Status, and achieved FMSiS.