



Crosby on Eden CoE Primary (Academy Status)

Headteacher's Report to the Annual General Meeting, 4th December 2018

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In the academic year 2017-18 Crosby on Eden C of E Primary School continued to give each child a rich, balanced and aspirational education which enabled our children to acquire the skills and knowledge that will support them to adapt to the many varied, new and often complex situations which occur in an ever shifting world. The school is committed to ensuring every child achieves their full potential but at the same time finds enjoyment in their routes to achievement. As a Church of England School, this is achieved through embedding Christian Values into the underlying ethos of support and encouragement for all members of our school community.

In achieving this we have:

- Motivated and inspired children to become resilient, independent learners able to fulfil their potential.
- Taught children to be caring and supportive members of the school community, demonstrating an equal level of respect towards their environment, family and local community. We have encouraged them to be able to extend this respect towards people they come across in their daily lives.
- Taught children to show compassion and kindness to others, to empathise and understand other views, to have skills to challenge others appropriately.
- Given children opportunities to use their initiative and sense of responsibility to solve challenges.
- Enabled pupils to appreciate the efforts of others and have a positive outlook on their own and others' achievements.
- Encouraged children to develop a keen sense of fair play and a strong moral code.
- Given opportunities for children to appreciate, learn from and care for their local environment.
- Allowed children to have an understanding and appreciation of the different faiths/cultures that exist in modern Britain today and the wider world around them and to celebrate our differences
- Carried out an act of daily collective worship which is essentially of a Christian nature and involves the entire school community, from the very youngest pupils upwards.
- Provided children with a range of opportunities to explore our common British Values.

Opportunities

The school ensures that during curricular and extra-curricular time we provide children with a range of opportunities:

- To participate in a range of sporting activities, to receive quality instruction.
- To have a sound understanding of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

- To explore the outdoor environment through regular Forest School visits.
- To recognise and develop their own individual talents.
- To socialise and interact with people from a range of backgrounds and cultures.
- To participate in / observe a range of cultural events.
- To experience the positive Christian ethos engendered through being a member of a church school.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

To achieve our objectives and aims the Academy is governed, led and managed in a way which facilitates self-critical review, ambitious but realistic strategic planning, prudent budgeting and effective development planning. It is also outward-looking since it involves analysis of aspects of a changing world and other political, social and economic factors which may affect the nature and relevance of our provisions and the demand for the education we offer. Good communications is vital so that pupils, parents and staff feel engaged and clear about the Academy's values, purpose and direction.

The long term aims, objectives and strategies are reviewed annually during a development planning process. The Head Teacher reports on progress in implementing the development plan to Governors on a termly basis.

Throughout the year Governors review the Academy's effectiveness using a number of agreed performance indicators including statistical data relating to academic performance. The Academy also has a programme of staff performance, appraisal and target setting.

Medium to long term objectives include:

- Providing the best possible outcomes for children, through working to achieve the highest standards in teaching and learning, pastoral care and the extra-curricular programmes, so that each child thrives at the Academy.
- The development of an engaging, rigorous curriculum that utilises our local environment is led by our own curriculum drivers and ultimately develops a love of learning.
- Maintaining and further developing our buildings and resources to provide facilities for the 21st Century.
- Establishing highly effective staff through providing continuous professional development, thus enabling them to respond effectively to the changing demands of their roles.
- Utilising the latest developments in information technology to improve outcomes in teaching and learning, communication and information management.
- Remaining financially stable, with strong control on expenditure and obtaining best value in financial decision making.
- Fostering good relations with all our stakeholders.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Crosby on Eden Church of England Primary School provides an exemplary education for its pupils and prepares them extremely well for the next stage in their education. This includes their personal development as well as their academic achievement. Fundamental to our aim to enhance pupils' achievements is our commitment to developing the accomplishments of the 'whole child', including: their self-awareness of themselves and others as learners both in local and global terms; their ability to make a positive impact upon society and their ability to reflect upon the values which guide their

daily lives. We are a church school in which 'relationships between all members of the school community are excellent; staff and children demonstrate compassion and kindness' (SIAMS 'Outstanding' 2015). The school has strong links with the church, the local community and local cluster schools. We have close links with our local secondary school, which eases transition of our Year 6 pupils as they start secondary education. Personal development is additionally enhanced by promoting self- development, team building, resilience and independence through Forest School experiences.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

In the academic year 2017-18 school performance in the end of Key Stage SATs presented a very positive picture and there was a huge increase in the number of Year 6 pupils achieving the combined age related expectation for Reading, Writing and Maths. This is a direct result of the far-reaching and robust actions taken in 2017-18 to address underperformance in 2016-17. Dynamic action plans and the focused initiatives which arose from them, ensured that already high standards of teaching and learning were further enhanced and creatively developed to have maximum impact on pupil attainment.

At end of Key Stage 2:

The national figures have been released and are shown below.

Expected Standards

The percentage of pupils achieving combined expected standards in Reading, Writing and Maths combined was 92%; the national average being 64%.

Reading	100% (12 out of 12 pupils).	National average is 75%.
SPAG	100% (12 out of 12 pupils).	National average is 78%.
Maths	92% (11 out of 12 pupils).	National average is 76%.
Writing	100% (12 out of 12 pupils).	National average is 78%.
Science	100% (12 out of 12 pupils).	National average is 82%

Higher Standards

The percentage of children achieving the higher standard / Greater Depth:

Reading	58% (national 28%)
Maths	42% (national 24%)
Writing	33% (national 10%).

The percentage of our children achieving the higher standard in Reading, Maths and Writing combined was 33% (national 10%).

Progress scores were also vastly improved and were significantly 'well above' national average in Reading and Writing and the negative progress trend in Maths was reversed to a positive.

Reading	4.16
Writing	4.86
Maths	1.22

We are justifiably incredibly proud of our Year 6 children and staff in achieving these outstanding results; achieved in the context of continuing to have a broad and rich curriculum and a vast range

of opportunities delivered to them out with the teaching of Literacy and Mathematics.

At end of Key Stage 1:

KS1 results were also above national averages, with attainment of the expected standard in Reading being a key strength.

Reading	92% (12 out of 13 pupils)	national average was 75%.
Writing	85% (11 out of 13 pupils).	national average not available
Maths	85% (11 out of 13 pupils).	national average was 76%.
Science	100% (13 out of 13 pupils).	national average was 83%.

Year 1 Phonics Check:

100% of pupils passed the Phonics Screening Check for the fourth year running. This result puts us in the top 3% of primary schools in the country for pupils passing or exceeding the phonics check mark for the 4th consecutive year. We are delighted with result which demonstrates the strength of Phonics teaching in school. The impact this has had over the last three years is demonstrated in our excellent achievement of 92% of Year 2 children meeting the expected standard in Reading (12 out of 13 children).

Early Years:

80% of pupils (12 out of 15) are working at a 'Good Level of Development'. The national average was 72% of pupils.

Enrichment / Wider Curriculum Opportunities

In addition to academic teaching and learning, pupils continue to benefit from a range of sporting opportunities and they compete in a variety of local sporting competitions including swimming, gymnastics, cross country, athletics, netball and football. We have a number of extra-curricular clubs to enrich the taught curriculum which run at lunch times and after school. These run throughout the year, are led by staff, parents and coaches from external organisations and change on a half-termly basis. Harvest, Advent and Easter events reinforce the Christian basis of these festivals and our whole school values. Other events encompass sport, culture, charity work, well-being and creativity. We pride ourselves on the health and fitness of our pupils. Close links with local secondary schools and their feeder primaries ensures pupils of all ages experience sports festivals, music and drama festivals and intra and inter school competitions, enabling pupils to collaborate and learn with children from the wider community.

In music, children are able to access woodwind, brass, keyboard and guitar lessons. We also have an active choir. Both have performed regularly at our local music festival and in community and church events. Some of our Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils took part in the Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival. All pupils have the opportunity to perform in: Christmas productions; Harvest festival; Nativity and Easter Services. Children also regularly plan, organise and present class worship and assemblies for parents.

Pupils in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to attend residential visits with a focus on outdoor and adventurous activities. In 2017-18, Lower Key Stage 2 pupils visited Robinwood Outdoor Centre near Alston. The Upper Key Stage 2 pupils visited Lockerbie Manor in Dumfriesshire. Throughout the year pupils had the opportunity to go on a range of trips and visits to enhance their learning experiences. The children have also organised and undertaken various fundraising events during the year linked to current affairs and global issues such as child poverty. As a Fairtrade School, we

achieved 'Fair Achiever' status in recognition of our children's efforts to raise awareness of fair trade in the local community.

We also achieved the Gold Award from the Woodlands Trust in recognition of our outstanding Forest Schools programme.

Parent Partnership

Our partnership with parents continues to go from strength to strength. Our active PTA have organised a number of varied events to successfully raise funds for the school. We celebrate and share our children's achievements with parents at every opportunity: they are vigorously encouraged to play a proactive role in their children's education; to this end we hold many learning based events in school for parents, such as 'Brilliant Beginnings' and 'Awesome Endings', Phonics Sessions and Open Afternoons. We again, had a very high take up for phonics information sessions for parents. We have many parent helpers who come into school to hear children read and also many parent volunteers who join us on our 'Forest School' excursions.

Staffing

Our teaching base continued to remain relatively stable in 2017-18. The most significant change of note, was the departure at the end of the academic year of our Deputy Head and KS1 teacher, Mrs Welsh. Mr Jones, who had been covering maternity leave in Year 3/4, was appointed KS1 teacher on a permanent basis and commenced this post in September 2018. A decision was made not to replace Mrs Welsh as Deputy and this has gone some way to addressing high teaching staff costs. The Headteacher has absorbed the additional duties of the Deputy Head and Miss Kerr now acts as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Governance

Ms Louisa Day resigned as Chair of Governors in September 2017, following three highly effective years in the role. We thank Louisa wholeheartedly for the pivotal role she played in securing the ambitious and highly successful development of the strategic leadership role of the governing body. Mrs Elspeth McKay stepped in as Interim Chair of Governors until February 2018; she ensured the continuous progress and development of the Governing Body was sustained throughout this period and we also thank her warmly for this. Mr Jonathon Ditchburn has now undertaken the role of Chair of Governors and will continue to ensure that school governance goes from strength to strength. We also welcomed two new parent governors, Mrs Sarah Cooper and Mr Rob MacKenna. Both have proven themselves to be an asset to the school community in a relatively short space of time, respectively assisting the Headteacher in recruitment and safeguarding matters, and the School Business Manager in Health and Safety matters. Both governors have undertaken Learning Walks in school and staff found the feedback very useful and encouraging. The feedback from governor Learning Walks is now shared with parents in the school's half termly newsletter, further improving parental knowledge and understanding of the work of governors in school.

Finance

School budgets continue to be a cause for concern nationally. However, at Crosby on Eden we remain relatively stable financially; our School Business Manager, Mrs Lydia Wood, works tirelessly to ensure best value is achieved and prudent financial management occurs as standard practice. The Academy's End of Year accounts audit for 2017-18 has now taken place; the full set of accounts are available to view on our school website and will be circulated to Governors ahead of the AGM. The school budget for 2018/19 was challenging but due to staff cost savings we are looking at a break-even budget for this academic year. The Academy remains in a strong financial position. Vice-Chair of Governors, Rob Gordon continues to provide monthly monitoring of the schools

finances and works with the School Business Manager to ensure continued, accurate documentation is in place.

School Development Priorities and Objectives for 2018-19

In 2017/18, we entered a new three year cycle for school development. Our ambitious but pragmatic targets are securely underway (as evidenced in robust and detailed reviews contained in Headteacher reports to The Governing Body in 2017-18). The revised and updated objectives for the academic year 2018-19 are contained in the attached document to this report, to be approved at the meeting.

Our overarching objectives for the year ahead are to further strengthen and embed the progress of the School, leading it forward with strong, visionary, collaborative leadership. Our whole school vision continues to progress its core principles; a mission to:

- Have enjoyment of learning at the heart of all we do.
- Have a challenging, fun, creative and engaging curriculum where everyone is motivated to achieve their best.
- Foster spirituality, awe and wonder.
- Enhance our understanding of ourselves as global learners and develop our appreciation of and involvement in concerns that affect children across the world.
- Become a 'P4C' (philosophy for children) school and achieve the Bronze award for this.

The ethos evident at Crosby on Eden CofE Primary Academy continues to be best summarised by our school motto: *'Enjoying achieving; achieving enjoyment'*. We continue to be immensely proud of our school and everyone in it.



Miss Ayesha Weston
Headteacher