



BRANSTON COMMUNITY ACADEMY

GOVERNING BODY



KEY ELEMENTS OF WORK/GOVERNOR IMPACT

- 1) One of first academy converters in country Nov 2010. Governors acted very decisively from a principle that the governing body had been acting with independence for many years so it was a natural progression benefitting students, staff and the whole community.
- 2) Governors have recruited and retained a stable and strong senior leadership team
- 3) Stable and strong governing body membership has strategically managed finances and premises extremely well for many years. That has allowed all learning needs to be very well resourced (curriculum development bids are almost 100% approved) whilst still being able to invest heavily in the development and maintenance of the site.
- 4) Standing committee meets monthly in addition to normal committee and full governing body meetings structure. This structure creates the capacity for governance to be coherent, rigorous, respond to immediate need. Independent and rigorous monitoring of day to day financial operations that cannot be quality assured by committee is commissioned by governors. Termly reports from auditors are presented to F & R Committee.
- 5) Community dimension to academy – this is a strategic non-negotiable for the governing body. Examples of that commitment
 - a) the Nursery is a thriving business – governors approved a major investment in the development of the capacity of the Nursery in 2013/14 (increased capacity by 25%).
 - b) Currently working with local community to sustain community library on site in face of major local cuts to service that will close it without that joint working.
 - c) Governors have taken the bold step to begin a community gymnasium (including swimming pool) business in order to further enhance our facilities as a leisure hub for our community. (Opened January 2014).
- 6) Governors ensure that curriculum presentations (C & S committee) and are standing items at governor meetings. This is deemed to be the most efficient and effective way of:
 - a) Gaining insight into core business
 - b) Observing and monitoring the connection between papers, presentations and discussions with the Principal and Senior Leaders, external performance data and the work of individuals and teams at the academy.
- 7) Governors quality assure teaching, professional development and progress against key priorities by:
 - Presentations on T & L/CPD to each C & S Committee meeting

- Presentations on Academy Development Plan to each Standards Committee meeting
- 8) Governors have worked with Lincolnshire Teaching Schools Alliance (LTSA) to ensure that Principal's performance management is rigorous and fair. Link with the LTSA has also allowed further checks/balances/perspectives to those internally.
 - 9) Vice-Chair of Governors presents to each Standards Committee meeting an update on his work quality assuring the provision for disadvantaged students and the impact of the Pupil Premium spend.
 - 10) Kirkland Rowell benchmarked questionnaires are a crucial method enabling governors to monitor and assess the views of students, parents and staff about every aspect of provision. Governors require these to be annual (tri-annual for each group). 2009, 2012 and 2015 parents, 2010 and 2013 students, 2011 and 2014 staff. To date all 6 have aggregated at overall 'outstanding' when compared to the views of students, parents and staff nationally answering the same questions.
 - 11) Governors have encouraged the Principal and senior team to engage in strategic partnerships to further the quality of provision internally:
 - a) Lincoln Teaching School Alliance (LTSA). The Principal is a member of the executive group from inception. Governors have encouraged the Academy to be a founder member of the group and lead in the development of ITT, local high quality CPD programmes and in school-to-school support network.
 - b) Peer Review/Headteacher PM adviser the Principal has led a Peer Review process at a local secondary school and acted as a PM adviser for another school
 - c) Application for National Leader in Education (December 2016).
 - 12) Standards: governors' analyses of student academic progression include the following components:
 - Autumn term Standards Committee – whole school external examination review
 - Analysis of progression of current students
 - Spring Term Standards Committee - Raise Online/FFT external examination review
 - Analysis of progression of current students
 - Summer Term Standards Committee - Data Dashboard
 - Analysis of progression of current students
 - Discussions with local schools standards team adviser to triangulate views of standards team relating to student progression at BCA.