

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of  
Conatus Federation 2022-2023**

The Governing Board of Conatus Federation has a strong focus on the three core strategic functions:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

We also recognise a fourth core function, regarded as of equal importance to the above,

4. Ensuring the voices of stakeholders are heard

**Governance Arrangements**

The full Governing Board meets once each term. There are two committees that meet on a termly basis – Standards and Business Committees. The Governing Board also has a Pay and Pay Appeals Committee which meet annually. Full Governing Board meetings and all committee meetings are professionally clerked, and agendas and approved minutes are kept in a secure area of the schools' networks. Each committee has Terms of Reference.

Governors are also linked to areas or aspects of the school. Governors who visit the school provide a written report which is shared with the Governing Board.

A list of Governing Board members is available on the school website together with their individual responsibilities. Governors have a wide spread of knowledge and expertise and are part of the committees which utilise their skills.

Attendance at meetings is very good and an attendance grid is available on the school website (Governor pages).

**Key issues addressed by the Governing Board 2021-22**

The Conatus Federation Governing board was a new legal entity overseeing the work of both Kidbrooke Park Primary and Boxgrove Primary schools with their associated SEND bases from September 2021. Over the past year we have:

1. Embedded the Governance processes and systems across the partnership.
2. Inducted some new members to the Federated Governing Board.
3. Begun driving the Partnership focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work.
4. Reviewed the White Paper and begun working on the implications for us as a Federated Partnership of Schools
5. Reviewed the Green Paper and submitted responses for our schools.

<b>Assessment of Impact</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Federation of our schools was unopposed at all levels, with all stakeholders recognising partnership work as effective and enabling provision for pupils, this has been further developed by the Governors unanimous decision to pursue joining a Trust.</li> <li>2. Both Schools performed in line or above National in the 2022 National Key Stage assessments.</li> <li>3. The Schools have begun to embed the new Phonics programme, which will further support raising standards.</li> <li>4. Governors have deeper insight in to various areas of performance across the partnership including subject Leadership, having been involved in a number of subject review sessions.</li> </ol>
<b>Future plans for the Governing Board</b>	<p>The Governing Board will continue its work in line with the Government agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redesign and improve EYFS provision, embedding the new EYFS curriculum across the partnership, ensuring subject leaders have deep oversight of their subject within the earliest years.</li> <li>• Further enhance the EDI agenda, reviewing the curriculum and involving stakeholders.</li> <li>• Undertaking Due Diligence for the chosen MAT and completing an Application for an Academy Order</li> <li>• Further raise the performance and progress of pupils to ensure White paper Expectations can be met over time, including the use of Tuition.</li> <li>• The Governing Board will ensure there is an ambitious Partnership Development plan which sets Federation priorities for the year ahead.</li> <li>• The Governing Board will oversee the work the schools take to ensure that any gaps in learning due to the pandemic or otherwise are closed and closing significantly.</li> <li>• The Governing Board will ensure the Federation has developed clear processes for supporting the professional development of all staff to further build capacity in the Federation as a whole.</li> <li>• The Governing Board will develop the Governors' skill base and succession planning.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Details</b>	<p>The Governing Board welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.</p>