

## **Tranmere Park Primary School** **Resources Sub Committee Annual Report 2020/21**



This year was particularly challenging due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and social distancing measures still in place. Budget restraints, staff absences and the global pandemic have had a big impact on school and may continue to have for the foreseeable future.

Members of the resources subcommittee have a range of complementary skills to help determine, monitor and review school activities. Members of the committee have built upon their existing knowledge and continued to challenge the status quo. Membership of the Resources Subcommittee expanded during 2020/21 with Clare Napoli joining existing members Kirsten Finley (HT), Clare Wright (re-elected February 2020), Peter Lewis (appointed September 2019) and James Davies (appointed 2019). Mark Howarth (School Business Manager) was an associate member until he left school in July 2021.

As ever, the resources subcommittee were charged by the full governing body with overseeing the effective use of all school resources to the best of their abilities. This includes income, such as Local Authority monies, and expenditure which incorporates the impact of staff employed by the school on the budget, as well as maintenance of the buildings and land around school. It is our job to make sure everything and everyone in school makes a positive contribution to the education of every child in school, with value for money being the underlying principle.

Specific areas covered by the resources committee in the last 12 months have included:

1. Agreeing the school budgets for the coming financial year and recommending their adoption to the full governing body.
2. Reviewing school's performance against the agreed budget and challenging any significant variances to ensure the financial viability of the school is maintained.
3. Undertaking health and safety reviews of the school premises and making recommendations for improvements.
4. Reviewing the policies and procedures relevant to the school's resources, ensuring they are fit for purpose.
5. Considering the impact of staff changes within the school (such as the impact of Covid and social distancing requirements including maintaining class bubbles, resourcing intervention groups and 'catch-up' sessions) and reduced revenue (lettings and Noctua) against the approved budget.
6. Considering the impact of the bulge cohort moving out of school and how best to re-allocated previously used teaching space.
7. Initiatives undertaken this school year include re-purposing the old Red Kites classroom to staff area and meeting / breakout space, seating in EYFS fort area, roof inspections, redecoration, configuration of the staff room and leadership team office and priority tree work in line with the tree survey.
8. Considering the impact of the pandemic on setting rents for commercial and community groups using school space. The usual lettings were unable to operate whilst social distancing measures were in place, but some extra curriculum activities were still put in place by others where virtual sessions could be held e.g. La Jolie Ronde Language Learners.
9. Agreeing dinner money and outsourcing the milk provision.
10. Completion of the School Financial Value Statement (This looks at how effective the

- school is in terms of financial management and provide evidence to Leeds City Council).
11. Challenged the value of service provisions such as service and goods contracts, including photocopiers this year.
  12. Reviewing the school premises development plan and deciding on the priorities for the forthcoming 12 months.

If governors feel that the school is not operating as efficiently as it could then it is imperative that challenge is made and the situation resolved.

The ongoing pandemic continued to cause uncertainty to most areas of school life. School have continued to provide support and assistance to staff, pupils and their families. Following Government guidelines and taking into account building constraints, school was able to provide continuity through class bubbles and have highlighted wellbeing as a key area of focus for everyone in school.

The immediate priority is to ensure we continue to provide a safe and secure environment for our teachers, staff, pupils and their families. We need to ensure that school operates to its optimum capacity, maximising pupil numbers in line with Government guidance and continue to create long term, diverse income streams to support additional functions in the future.

It has been a challenging year for the resources committee and everyone in school but with restrictions easing from the end of term there is hope for more aspects of school getting closer to a sense of normality when we return after the summer break.

July 2021