



# Governor Up-date

## October 2024

### Governors Welcome Mr Wright

At their first meeting of the term Governors were pleased to welcome our new Headteacher, Michael Wright. Mr Wright is a very experienced senior leader, having worked in three large 11-18 schools in the North East. His previous role was Deputy Headteacher at Durham Johnston school, so he knows the Durham area well. Priorities for 2024-25 were discussed and governor link roles were allocated.

Mr Wright immediately set out his philosophy on the school website:-

***“ We want three things for all our students.***

***First and foremost, we want them to be and feel safe. This of course means that they should feel safe in our care but also know how to make sure they’re safe both inside and outside of school, now in and in their future. They should also know how to help and support others if they have any worries or concerns.***

***We also want our students to recognise the value of knowledge. This is fundamentally a school, and our primary aim is to educate people and help them recognise that knowing more about the world opens the doors of opportunity, allows you to make strong and informed choices and is also worth doing within itself.***

***Driving both these two things is our desire for our students to be and feel happy. Feeling safe is the first step in feeling happy. Knowledge allows everyone to understand the world and recognise not only what they can achieve but also how they can help others. We celebrate the success of all our students for all their achievements.”***

#### KCSIE – Keeping Children Safe in Education

This document is published annually, and all governors must ensure they have read it.

The key changes this year are:-

- The definition of Safeguarding has been broadened to include protecting children from maltreatment within and outside the home.
- An updated list of early help indicators has been introduced.
- There is a reaffirmation that schools have responsibility in safeguarding pupils who attend Alternative Provision providers.

Priority	Objective	SLT lead	Link Governor
Quality of Teaching	Monitor the impact of CPD on quality of teaching,	Helen Machin	Louise Quinn
Quality of assessment	Monitor the impact of assessment on outcomes	Kate O’Neill	David Gurden Williams
Targeted academic support	Monitor provision and the impact of SEND provision on outcomes	Kate O’Neill	Daniel Lynch
Targeted academic support	Targeted revision & intervention for years 10 & 11 – impact on GCSE outcomes	Louise Lutynski	Tracy Bell
Pupil Well-being	Improved governor understanding of pupil mental health & well-being. .	Michele Osborne	Papi Taieb
Attendance	Improve governor monitoring of attendance.	Fran Ward	Helen O’Brien
Behaviour	Improved governor understanding of behaviour issues	Jane Rayson	Lesley Hamill
Safeguarding & pupil welfare	Regular meetings with DSL. Monitor Governor safeguarding training.	Michele Osborne	Joanne Thorns
Raising achievement through literacy	Governor monitoring of reading across the school.	Helen Machin	Hannah Juby
Careers education & Guidance	Gatsby benchmarks and monitoring of the CEIAG offer	Fran Ward	Alice Hiley
Equality & Diversity	Improved governor understanding of Equality & Diversity issues	Jane Rayson	Jamie Sands