

# St. Peter's Church of England Primary School, Heswall



# **Annual Governor Report to Parents**

# Celebrating Success at St Peter's CE Primary School 2024-25

As we begin this new academic year it is with great pleasure and pride that I present the Annual Governor Report to Parents for St Peter's Church of England Primary School summarising school priorities and celebrating school success during the previous 2024-25 academic year. Our school continues to flourish as a vibrant centre of learning and community, and this year has been a remarkable testament to what can be achieved when students, staff, parents, and governors work together in pursuit of excellence. As Governors we use our strategic plan to challenge and support our leaders to build on successes and further improve our school.

# **Staffing**

Following his appointment by Governors, we were delighted by the way the school community welcomed our new head teacher, Mr. Wallace. This warm reception has been instrumental in helping him settle in and make many positive contributions to the school. Additionally, we are pleased to appoint Mrs. Birmingham as the permanent deputy head teacher. We are extremely grateful for the commitment of all the school staff whose hard work and devotion is instrumental in driving the successes we celebrate and which was clearly evident in the majority of responses in the recent Parent Survey.

### Successes in 2024-25

### **High Participation in Expanded Extra-Curricular Activities**

One of the standout achievements of the year has been the incredible growth and success of our extracurricular provision. Recognising the importance of a holistic education and "shining bright", our Standards Committee have made it a priority to broaden the range and accessibility of clubs and activities that take place before and after the school day. We saw record participation, with children from all year groups enthusiastically engaging in opportunities to learn new skills, develop their talents, and form friendships beyond the classroom.

Our clubs now encompass a wide range of interests, from creative arts including drama, dance, ukulele and choir, to Mad Science and Digital Wizards, chess, eco club, and coding. Sports clubs have also been particularly popular, with netball, athletics, and cricket attracting high numbers. We are especially proud that the majority of Key Stage 2 (KS2) pupils have taken part in at least one sporting or creative extracurricular activity across the year. This breadth of participation reflects the inclusive, supportive ethos we are committed to nurturing at St Peter's.

## **Sporting Achievements and the Houlihan Cup**

We are able to celebrate some exceptional sporting achievements, not least our historic victory in the Houlihan Cup, the Wirral Football Cup for Year 5/6. For the first time ever, St Peter's emerged as champions, a testament to the hard work, sportsmanship, and dedication of our young players and their coaches. The excitement and pride generated by this win have been infectious across the school community, fuelling further enthusiasm for sport and teamwork.

Beyond football, our pupils have excelled in a range of other sporting competitions and festivals. The school's ethos of "sport for all" has seen most pupils in KS2 take part in at least one inter-school sporting event this year, be it athletics, cross country, netball, or cricket. This participation not only fosters physical health and confidence but also builds resilience, cooperation, and a sense of collective achievement.

#### Creative Arts and School Production

Creativity and self-expression remain at the heart of our curriculum and school life. The Year 6 school production was a particular highlight, showcasing the wide array of talents among our pupils. From acting and singing to set design and backstage support, so many children contributed meaningfully to the success of the event. The production brought together families and staff, filling the school hall with applause and joy, and reminding us of the power of the arts to unite and inspire. In addition to this, children from the school performed at the AmaSing and Wirral Dance shows at the Floral Pavilion.

# **Active Parental Engagement**

The partnership between home and school is central to our philosophy at St Peter's, and we have seen a wonderful continuation and strengthening of that partnership. Our parents and carers have been actively involved in a wide variety of initiatives and celebrations.

# Successful Fundraising

Thanks to the creativity and generosity of the Friends of St Peter's and the wider parent body, fundraising events have been exceptionally well attended and successful. From the summer fair and fireworks, funds have been raised that directly enhance the school experience for all children—supporting everything from audio visual equipment and outdoor equipment to library resources.

## **Shared Learning Mornings**

Parental engagement has also taken the form of shared learning mornings. These sessions have given parents and carers the chance to step into their child's classroom, observe and participate in lessons, and gain insight into the curriculum and teaching methods. Feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing appreciation for the opportunity to see first-hand the enthusiasm and dedication of both pupils and staff. These mornings foster a greater understanding of how to support learning at home and affirm our collective commitment to each child's success.

# **Maintaining High Academic Standards**

At the core of our school's mission is a commitment to providing the very highest quality of education. St Peter's has continued to uphold and exceed the high academic standards for which it is known. Each term our school leaders report their evaluations of pupil progress which are monitored and discussed at the Governors' Standards Committee and during our link Governor visits to school.

### Strengths in Reading, Maths, and Phonics

Our pupils have performed exceptionally well across the curriculum, with particular strengths in reading, mathematics, and phonics. The proportion of pupils achieving at "greater depth" levels in these core areas is significantly above national averages, indicative of the high expectations and dedicated teaching throughout the school.

A culture of reading for pleasure is evident in every classroom, supported by a refurbished and vibrant library and regular author visits. Our phonics programme continues to yield outstanding results, ensuring that even our youngest learners develop a secure foundation for future success. In mathematics, children are consistently challenged and supported to reason, problem-solve, and apply their skills in creative and meaningful ways.

## **Quality of Education**

These academic outcomes reflect not only the abilities of our pupils but also the relentless commitment of our staff to delivering a high-quality, inspiring, and inclusive curriculum. Teachers and support staff have continued to participate in professional development, embracing new evidence-based approaches and refining practice to ensure every child can achieve their potential.

# **Building and finance**

Our Assets & Buildings, Health & Safety Committee oversee key areas such as finance and our building. We continue to maintain and improve our school, with improved internal decoration and recent building

improvements including our new library and upgrades to windows and the roof (as part of our building plan). Although our budget is still a significant challenge, spending has been reduced while maintaining standards for our pupils. In response to changes in local demographics, we have consulted on reducing our planned admission number. This has led to an ongoing staffing restructure to better align with our current and future needs.

# **Looking Ahead**

As we look forward to this new academic year, we remain committed to continuous improvement and innovation. Building on the successes of 2024-25, our key priorities for 2025-2026 are as follows:

# • Key Improvement Priority 1

To improve attainment in writing in all year groups with a specific focus on achieving more greater depth (CW).

## Key Improvement Priority 2

To redesign the curriculum long term planning for single age group teaching. (EBi)

## Key Improvement Priority 3

To review and develop the curriculum areas of RSE and Music. (HC / DW)

# Key Improvement Priority 4

To engage with and implement the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme in school (CW / DW).

# Key Improvement Priority 5

To continue to prioritise and maximise the mental wellbeing of staff, parents and pupils of St Peter's (HC).

In addition to this we will be continuing to improve the quality of the building by continuing the rolling programme of refurbishment.

# **Thanks and Acknowledgements**

None of these achievements would be possible without the dedication and passion of our staff, the enthusiasm and kindness of our pupils, the support and involvement of our parents, and the challenge, support and guidance of the governing body. My sincere thanks go to each and every member of our school community for making St Peter's the warm, ambitious, and joyful place it is.

Together, we continue to nurture children who are not only academically confident but also resilient, creative, and compassionate individuals—ready to make a positive difference in the world living out our School Vision: Firm Foundations, Shining Bright

On behalf of the Governors, I wish you all a successful year ahead.

John Dowler

Chair of Governors