

# Holyport College



## Annual Governance Statement for the academic year 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 – 31st August 2018.

In accordance with the Government's requirements for all governing boards, the three core strategic functions of the Holyport College Governing Board are:

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



Governance arrangements

The full Governing Board met once each term and minutes of these meetings, as well as all committees, are posted on the College website. The Governing Board operates a committee structure consisting of:

- The Welfare Committee
- The Finance Committee
- The Curriculum Committee
- Nominations and Successions Committee
- College Strategy Committee
- Head Master's Performance Committee
- Bursaries sub-committee

A special working group, in which several governors participated, was established to help co-ordinate the College's fund-raising strategy. There are also committee meetings that meet as and when required to consider student discipline and staffing matters.

The attendance record for each governor can be found on the College website.



What did we do during the academic year?

The College's first Ofsted inspection report was published on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017. As the Full Governing Board had already completed its cycle of meetings for that academic year, governors had not properly had the opportunity to consider the report and its findings. Needless to say, they were delighted with the College's outstanding judgements in all areas of school inspection and congratulated the whole College community on its achievements. Governors noted inspectors' recommendations that the College needed to improve careers education, advice and guidance and encouraged the senior team to ensure that plans were put in place for this vital area of students' personal development. The Governing Board appointed a link governor for careers to have oversight of this area.

Early in the academic year, governors considered the College's first set of GCSE results. Initial analysis of results was complicated by the move from alphabetic grades to numeric grades in certain subjects. However, with an Attainment 8 score of 54.2, 10 points clear of the national average of 44.2, governors were greatly encouraged. The Progress 8 score was positive although governors encouraged the senior team to work towards a more ambitious result in August 2018. Just over 25% of all results were at A/A\* (9-7), the highest grades available. Our Ebacc entry was 77%, some 42% above the national average, and students actually achieving the Ebacc was twice the national average. Overall, the College outperformed many schools in the local area. Governors congratulated staff and students for a wonderful first set of results but also asked the senior team to focus particularly on the achievement of higher ability students over the coming year.

The College opened its sixth form provision in September 2017. Many governors had been involved in the working party which had been set up to oversee the establishment of the sixth form. Throughout the year, governors took a keen interest in how students were settling into the new provision and paid particular attention to the quality of teaching and learning in the sixth form. Each Head of Department at Holyport College was linked to their counterpart at Eton College and governors are grateful to Eton College colleagues for their contribution to curriculum development and quality assurance. Governors are also grateful to the many colleagues in other state schools with which we have built up contacts for their contributions to the moderation of academic work. Many of our sixth formers attended Eton College Societies in the evenings, something which will broaden their horizons, spark their curiosity and enhance their career prospects. Much work was also done to start the UCAS process so that students could target the best universities in the country.

	<p>The College's first Ofsted Social Care Inspection of its boarding provision took place in June 2015. As boarding school provision is inspected every three years, governors closely monitored provision, mainly through the work of the Governors' Welfare Committee. Several governors visited boarding on a regular basis to ensure quality and consistency of provision. Governors were pleased that boarding provision was rated as good in all areas of inspection. Boarding was described as having a calm and welcoming atmosphere and it was especially gratifying to see that inspectors had recognised the 'remarkable progress' which boarders make. The work of staff in creating a safe atmosphere was recognised and boarders reported that they could not identify any bullying incidents having taken place. Inspectors asked the College to look at its systems for listening to the views of students and to work with the College's external caterers to ensure that further improvements to the catering operation were secured.</p> <p>Governors commissioned an external review of College leadership structures. This was especially helpful given the serious illness of the Head Master and governors acted quickly to ensure string and stable leadership at the College during this challenging time. Governors wish to place on record their gratitude to the Acting Head Master and his team for their excellent work and continue to wish the Head Master well in his recovery.</p> <p>Governors were pleased to see that the uptake of Maths and Science subjects in the sixth form, especially amongst girls, had been so high. This necessitated the building of three new science laboratories/classrooms. A fundraising appeal was launched to help the College to achieve its goals. The College seeks to raise funds to finance the new science laboratories, to support bursary students in boarding and, in the longer term, to provide music practice rooms. As ever, the Friends of Holyport College and the Dads' Club were central to our fund-raising efforts and governors wish to place on record their gratitude for their continual support of the College and its students.</p>
 <p>The year ahead</p>	<p>Priorities for the academic year 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The success of the newly established sixth form provision</li> <li>▪ On-going recruitment of sixth form students</li> <li>▪ Leadership and Management at the College</li> <li>▪ Quality of boarding provision</li> <li>▪ Careers education, advice and guidance</li> </ul>

 How to contact the Governing Board	Mr Simon Dudley is the Chair of Governors at Holyport College, as well as being one of the founders. He can be contacted through the clerk by using the following email address: <a href="mailto:clerk@holyoportcollege.org.uk">clerk@holyoportcollege.org.uk</a>