

## **Annual Statement Boldon Nursery School – Outdoor Nursery 2017-18**

The Governors at Boldon Nursery have supported the school exceptionally well throughout the year. We have a wide range of Governors from many different backgrounds. The Governors skills are utilized well to match their strengths. The Governors work closely with the school to identify priorities and develop a cohesive plan of action. They attend regular training sessions ran by both the local authority and the school itself to ensure that they are fully up to date with any changes in legislation or initiatives.

### **Key issue 1 that faced the Governing Board during 2017-18**

#### ***Reducing numbers on roll***

The Nursery is receiving less children from the adjoining Children's Centre and the neighbouring Sunshine playgroup. Both of these settings now deliver the nursery education entitlement although none of them have a qualified teacher. The attraction for parents in the centre is the longer day and stretched offer over the holidays. The playgroup has a very loyal set of parents who have sent their children and siblings there from the age of 2, and stay there.

The school previously took in 2 year olds in their last term of funded offer from the children centre to support capacity in the children's centre but now they have capacity they are not moving children on to Boldon Nursery School. In previous years we were not allowed to bring in our own 2 year olds. However, a change of personnel and challenge from the Head has resulted in the nursery opening up its provision to include 2 year olds from September 2017

### **Assessment of the impact facing key issue 1 for the Governing Board on the school during 2017-18**

The number of funded 2 year olds and paid day care has helped set a balanced budget with minimum clawback. The nursery was in a small deficit (£3600) due to some childcare fees (£7600) being held centrally in the council as an error. The nursery was able to set a healthy budget for April 18-19. Children have settled well into the environment and are making robust progress from 2. All parents received a two-year-old check report from the nursery for their child highlighting achievement and progress.

### **Key issue 2 that faced the Governing Board during 2017-18**

#### ***Staffing***

In 17/18 the school was without its teacher for 3 months. The school and Governors worked hard at finding suitable cover. This would possibly incur some extra costs which the governors had to agree, in addition it meant the Head Teacher had to take on the teachers responsibility for SEND.

### **Assessment of the impact facing key issue 2 for the Governing Board on the school during 2017-18**

Teaching and learning remain outstanding despite staffing issues. SIO report describes that despite the situation, the highly experienced and highly qualified team worked hard to ensure all gaps were filled and the quality and provision remained outstanding. The Head Teacher ensured that the provision for children with SEND was maintained and appropriate and that all individual plans were in place.

