



Governing Body's Annual Impact Statement 2021-2022

The Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body over the last year were:

- Providing a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum for our pupils over the course of the year, whilst identifying gaps in learning for our pupils.
- Providing a safe working and learning environment for pupils and staff whilst following Government directives and guidance.
- Understanding how best to meet the needs of our children and to improve their emotional well-being following the pandemic.
- Establishing ways to improve emotional well-being for the whole school community – particularly where pupils have been affected by the pandemic.
- Ensuring that appropriately designated funding is used to support our disadvantaged pupils.
- Promoting 'a love and enjoyment of reading'.
- Supporting the school through an Ofsted Inspection.
- Preparing for the return of all statutory assessments for primary aged pupils from 1st September 2021.
- Supporting the whole school community.

The impact of the Governing Body on the school was:

- To complete a full and intensive year that saw a return to near normal timetabled activities, following two years of disruption caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. It was imperative that the Governing Body ensured that the return of pupils to school for this academic year would enable our pupils to develop, progress and re-connect with the school environment. At the heart of our governance was a shared desire to support the children in re-connecting with their friends, peers, staff and school community, to allow them once again to flourish and thrive.
- The autumn term saw the whole school return without bubbles, staggered starts and breaktimes and carefully managed access areas in and around the site. The school staff worked consistently to meet the needs of the children, with adaptations and tweaks being made to the curriculum that would allow staff to support the catch-up requirements of skills and knowledge, after months of disruption.
- The Spring Term saw a visit from Ofsted in February – five years after the previous inspection. The whole school community came together to give an accurate 'point in time' snapshot of the school. The school maintained a 'Good' rating with a clear target to ensure that the school curriculum was consistently planned with clear progressive steps in each subject. Whilst a number of subjects were recognised as being clearly defined and complete, others were not quite fully established and required further attention.

Key quotes from Ofsted:

'Pupils say that they love being in school. They say that other pupils are 'friendly, kind, understanding and helpful.'

'Pupils run off excess energy at breaktimes. They like the equipment they have, set out by sports leaders. Year 2 enjoy 'Wonky Wednesday' break, when they pair up with a classmate they do not usually play with. New friendships are made.'

'Teachers expect great things from pupils, but pupils also aspire to great things themselves.'



'Some curriculum subjects, such as design technology and art, are well planned so that pupils' knowledge builds progressively. In these subjects, pupils connect learning and apply knowledge in different contexts.'

'The love of reading starts in the Nursery.'

'Pupils are achieving well in mathematics.'

'Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive effective support. Teachers set work that gives them access to the whole curriculum. Staff spot any issues quickly and give extra help.'

'Governors know the strengths of the school. They hold leaders to account for tackling the areas that need improvement.'

- Over the course of the spring term there was a steady increase in the number of C-19 cases within the school to both pupils and staff, due to the Omicron variant of the virus. Despite staff absences and the challenge of acquiring agency staff to cover those staff isolating and at home, the school continued to operate with pupils once again accessing remote learning plans when required.
- Congratulations must be given to 'The Cullercoders' the school's Lego-Robotics Team, who attended the National finals in Harrogate (Feb 2022) and returned with the coveted Core Values Award. This is the second time that Cullercoats has won this award and this is once again, testament to the hard work of the pupils in the team and the two staff leads who guide the children.
- Residential visits also returned, with pupils from Year 4 and Year 5 enjoying activities in in the Lake District at High Borrans Activity Centre in the autumn term and Year 6 returning to Dalguise in Scotland for a five-day activity programme.
- This year, we have acquired the services of Kate Broom, a Counsellor who visits school every Wednesday and provides valuable counselling to a number of the pupils within our school. We have also welcomed Nora – our Pets as Therapy dog who visits both the out of school club and school on Tuesday. Both pupils and staff have found Kate and Nora a delight to work with and valuable additions to our school team. Nora was particularly welcome as a calming influence to all during the Ofsted inspection.

All statutory assessments were carried out for the academic year 2021-22.

Below are the headline figures:

- 54.4% EYFS – GLD – Children are defined as having reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the Early Years if they have achieved at least the expected level for the Early Learning Goals in the prime areas of learning (Communication & Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development) and the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

This is lower than previous years. Our records show that the children lack independence and still require adult reassurance in a number of areas. Key areas of development have been affected by the Covid-19 lockdowns and the school is working hard to ensure that these recover as we move forward.

- Phonics Year 1 – 85% of pupils attaining the test.
- Phonics Year 2 98.3%



- End of KS1 – Our results were moderated (Checked for accuracy by the Local Authority)
Reading TA 85% 51/60 Pupils GDS 25% 15/60 Pupils
Writing TA 83% 50/60 Pupils GDS 12% 7/60 Pupils
Maths TA 87% 52/60 Pupils GDS 23% 14/60 Pupils
- Year 4 Tables Test – this was the first time that this was completed by school. There were 25 questions and no threshold (pass mark) set.
- End of KS2
Reading Test 93% 57/61 Pupils GDS 41% 25/61 Pupils
Writing TA 84% 51/61 Pupils GDS 21% 13/61 Pupils
Maths Test 90% 55/61 Pupils GDS 23% 14/61 Pupils
GP&S Test 89% 54/61 Pupils GDS 54% 33/61 Pupils

We have a fantastic set of results, which have been supported through catch-up funding, which has allowed for additional staff. The pupils and staff have worked tirelessly over the last two years and have been well supported at home. A great set of results – well deserved.

Platinum Jubilee for the Queen and Cullercoats School

- Cullercoats Infant School opened on our site officially on 18th July 1952. 70 years to the exact date, the school held a celebration event with a decade themed procession (50's, 60's 70's 80's 90' 00's and 10's) around the local environment (St George's Church) along Beverley Gardens. The children enjoyed a special Jubilee muffin in the afternoon and received a specially designed Queen and Cullercoats Commemorative Jubilee Mug. A plaque to mark the event was also unveiled by our School Council in the entrance hall. It feels very poignant now, following the death Her Majesty that the school was able to celebrate the exceptional life and commitment to public service of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.
- Our wonderful and supportive Parents' Association have worked creatively throughout the year to help raise valuable additional funds for the school and were very keen to support visits, once these were allowed. Our pupils saw the return of our disco day and they thoroughly enjoyed the music, fun and refreshments.
- On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to extend our best wishes to those members of staff who left us in the summer – Miss Stewart, Miss Mearns and Mr Youldon. We thank them all for their support, commitment and service to Cullercoats Primary School over many years.
- We are grateful to everyone connected with Cullercoats Primary who make this community school a wonderful, caring and happy environment for our pupils.

Mrs C Black (Chair of the Governing Body) & Mr G Storey (Headteacher)

October 2022