

Governors Impact Statement September 2019 for the academic year 2018/19

During the academic year we fulfilled our statutory duty of *'holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the **school** and its pupils, and the performance management of staff'* through rigorous interrogation of the college's data, results and quality of teaching. We have received presentations from individual members of staff, undertaken monitoring visits and challenged the Headteacher and his Senior Leadership Team on outcomes and progress. We challenged the Headteacher for more rapid improvements in progress.

We continue to review staffing levels at the college to ensure that the needs of our students are being met. This saw a restructure of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) with the appointment of an additional Assistant Headteacher who will join the college in September 2019.

November 2018 saw an inspection from Ofsted who judged that whilst the college overall needed to improve, the behaviour and welfare of our students was good. Following a recommendation from the Ofsted Inspector, we employed the services of a National Leader for Governance who undertook an External Review of Governance (ERG). The ERG confirmed that governance is strong.

To support our appraisal of the Headteacher we have continued to employ an independent external advisor who meets with the agreed performance management governors to offer support and guidance in setting and reviewing objectives to ensure the appraisal process is rigorous and measured against the relevant standards.

In order to fulfil our statutory responsibility of *'overseeing the financial performance of the **school** and make sure its money is well spent'*, our Leadership & Strategy Committee has met regularly throughout the year to monitor the expenditure of our allocated funding. We delegated responsibility to the chair of the L&S committee who has expertise in accounting for monitoring the financial management of the college to ensure best value. Once again we were able to ratify a balanced budget. We have received and approved audited Private School Funds and the Audited PFTA Funds.

We ‘ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction’ through rigorous monitoring of the College Improvement Plan monitoring the key performance indicators and challenging the Headteacher and SLT on the impact towards completing the agreed actions. As a board, we have a clear vision as to where we see the college in three years’ time and continue to work closely with The Two Counties Trust to secure the support we have identified in order to achieve this. Approval has been given to the board for the college to join The Two Counties Trust during the academic year 2019/20.

In order to fulfil the expanding needs of our community and support the growing popularity of the college, we agreed a planned expansion of our pupil admission number in conjunction with the Local Authority.

In preparation for joining The Two Counties Trust, Governors agreed a restructure of its meeting cycle which saw a move from committees to full governors’ meetings with effect from September 2019. Statutory committees and a Pay Committee will be retained within the new structure.

We continue to ensure that the college is GDPR compliant and also continue to promote the highly effective safeguarding and wellbeing of our students.

The Governing Board and SLT have worked very closely with senior leaders both from The Two Counties Trust and the schools who are already part of the trust to share and receive examples of good practice. We remain fully committed to improving the education and outcomes of every young person who attends Springwell Community College.