Annual Governors' Statement: September 2024

SCHOOL CONTEXT:

Parents and carers are supportive of their children. They are increasingly involved in their children's learning and have a positive impact within the school.

The school roll is fluctuating as a result of challenges arising predominantly from the local context, though national challenges inform these. The roll fell from 421 at the time of the last Section 5 Ofsted Inspection in 2019 to 371 in 2022. As of July 2024, it has increased to 418. Capacity is 446. Pupil mobility results from the shortage of appropriate and affordable housing, the national challenges of the pandemic, Brexit and the cost of living crisis, the declining birth rate in the area and Southwark's Keeping Education Strong strategy, which is resulting in the amalgamation and/or closure of a number of local schools due to low and falling pupil numbers. Brunswick Park's roll has increased because of this, and families immigrating directly from overseas. Whilst recruitment and financial challenges result from fluctuating pupil numbers, in comparison with similar local schools, its current, increasing roll puts Brunswick Park in a strong position for continued improvement.

Children engage well in their learning. Staff are committed to providing an exciting, high-quality education through an ambitious and engaging curriculum, which prioritises the development of language, communication and cultural capital with specific, targeted support for children from disadvantaged backgrounds and with SEND to prepare them effectively for life in modern Britain.

Brunswick Park has a 14-place Resource Base (SRP) for pupils with ASD, where the school's Resource Provision is named on their EHCPs. In addition to these pupils the number of children presenting with complex additional needs including ASD, severe learning difficulties and nonverbal communication is increasing, particularly in the EYFS. Within the context of fluctuating pupil numbers, careful consideration is given to class groupings to enable all pupils' needs to be met appropriately and safely and future provision planned to meet the needs of the changing population of the school.

OUTCOMES AT BRUNSWICK PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Brunswick Park Primary School continues to provide a secure education for leaners at the school. Leaders are ambitious for children and young people attending the school and are committed to ensuring that by the end of Key Stage 2, pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their learning. This is summarised by outcomes over time at the school.

Pupil Outcomes July 2024 – Summary Table (unvalidated as of August 2024)					
Aspect	**School 2023**	**LA 2023**	**NA 2023**	**School 2024**	**NA 2024**
EYFS – GLD	66%	70%	67%	76% **(+10%)**	-
Year 1 Phonics	69%	80%	79%	75% **(+6%)**	-
Year 2 Phonics (retake)	76%	87%	87%	84% **(-3%)**	-

Year 4 MTC	21/25 average score	London: 21.1/25	20.2/25	23/25 average score **(+2)**	-
Year 6 Reading EXP	79%	76%	73%	78% **(-1%)**	74%
Year 6 Reading GDS	48%	33%	29%	55% **(+7%)**	28%
Year 6 Writing EXP	81%	76%	73%	78% **(-3%)**	72%

Year 6 Writing GDS	31%	19%	13%	33% **(+2%)**	13%
Year 6 Maths EXP	83%	78%	73%	85% **(+2%)**	73%
Year 6 Maths GDS	46%	29%	24%	46%	24%
Year 6 Combined EXP	77%	66%	59%	76% **(-1%)**	61%
Year 6 Combined GDS	29%	12%	8%	33% **(+3%)**	8%
Year 6 SPAG EXP	84%	77%	72%	80% **(-4%)**	72%
Year 6 SPAG GDS	49%	35%	30%	54% **(+6%)**	32%

ATTENDANCE

There are rigorous systems in place to monitor and improve attendance and punctuality, supported by a designated Attendance Officer appointed in September 2023. As a result, pupil attendance has improved on the previous academic year. As of 18 March 2024, it is in the highest 30-40% (decile 4) of all schools with a similar level of deprivation.

Overall absence to this date is 6.2%, the bottom 20- 30% of all schools, and 45/53 of all schools and 37/53 of schools with a similar level of deprivation in the LA that return attendance data. Continuing to improve attendance remains a priority.

GOVERNORS' PRINCIPLES STATEMENT: CURRICULUM

At Brunswick Park, governors in collaboration with school leaders have designed an integrated curriculum that is broad and balanced. It has been organised using a subject focused/topic based approach that incorporates progressively the key skills set out in the National Curriculum 2014. It is enriched with trips and visits, visitors to the school, growing vegetables and gardening, cooking and extracurricular clubs and activities. There are core texts linked to the topics, from which learning in English is derived.

The aims of our curriculum are:

- to build children's confidence and motivation to learn;
- to build children's character and cultural capital;
- to embed key skills to prepare our children for life and everyday experiences outside school;
- to provide opportunities to apply knowledge and learning in a variety of ways;
- to stimulate children's natural curiosity;
- to foster a sense of worth, purpose and personal identity, make informed choices, have enquiring minds and communicate effectively and well;
- to allow and encourage children to take risks with their learning, solve problems, make mistakes and learn from them to develop resilience;
- to teach skills through our children's interests, what is relevant and what is necessary;
- to appreciate, value and enjoy learning!

Please click here for more information on our Intent, Implementation and Impact Statements and Year Group Curriculum Maps

Skills and knowledge in English and mathematics are taught daily. They are taught both discretely and through the remaining subjects of the National Curriculum. The Modern Foreign Language taught at Brunswick Park is Spanish. Specialist teachers teach Spanish, PE, sport and music discretely. Swimming is taught in an intensive programme in Year 6. The school has an allotment and garden for the children to grow vegetables, which they then prepare and eat.

At Brunswick Park, the scheme we use to teach Phonics is Little Wandle Letters and Sounds (Revised). Children in Reception and Year 1 have daily Phonics lessons using the Little Wandle scheme. There are Keep-Up and Catch-Up sessions available for children who are at risk of falling behind. Children in Year 2 and above who cannot yet read fluently also access phonics teaching using the Little Wandle scheme. You can visit the website for more information:

https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

GOVERNORS' PRINCIPLES STATEMENT: BEHAVIOUR & DISCIPLINE

The Governors believe that for effective learning and wholehearted support for the school, there needs to be a strong consensus between parents, pupils and staff on what constitutes acceptable behaviour and fair discipline. The Governors have issued the following statement setting out what they think each pupil, parent and teacher has a right to expect and what it is reasonable to expect of them in return.

As Governors we recognise the rights and responsibilities of all pupils, parents and staff. We therefore expect all pupils, parents and staff to show due respect and courtesy to one another. In particular we believe that **pupils are entitled to:**

- Work and play in a secure environment, without fear or disruption
- Receive praise and recognition for their efforts and achievements
- Be respected as individuals
- Be subject to discipline that is fair, consistent and explicit in its expectations
- Receive understanding and support to help them meet the school's expectations

Parents are entitled to:

- Be respected as partners in the education of their child
- Be consulted at an early stage if their child is causing concern
- Receive clear information about all aspects of their child's progress
- Receive clear information about how to approach the school if they are concerned
- Receive clear information about their rights when any formal disciplinary measures are taken

Staff are entitled to:

- Work in a secure environment without fear or disruption
- Expect pupils to comply with reasonable instructions, given that staff have legal responsibility for the safety of all children in their care
- Receive support in their efforts to maintain the good conduct of the school and efficient learning

Pupils, parents and staff are all responsible for ensuring that others have the same rights as they do.

Responsibility for discipline in the school rests primarily with the Head Teacher, subject to the statement on discipline from the Governing Body. The Governors are called upon from time to time to consider whether particular disciplinary action is appropriate where a dispute arises. While we shall try always to respect the individuality of pupils, parents and staff, the school is a community and there are times when the greater good of the whole school and the community must take priority.

The Governors do not wish to draw up an exclusive list of prescribed behaviour and sanctions. We expect fair and reasonable behaviour and the full circumstances of each case to be properly considered. But we wish to make it clear that in exercising our functions, the Governors will regard the following as unacceptable behaviour at Brunswick Park:

- Any action inconsistent with school policies
- Any form of violence, bullying or intimidation

- Racist or abusive language
- Bringing to school any inappropriate item
- Action outside of school that brings the school into disrepute
- Influencing pupils to participate in unacceptable behaviour

We believe that good order and mutual respect between pupils, parents and staff will be promoted where expectations are made clear and are widely accepted.

GOVERNORS' PRINCIPLES STATEMENT: FINANCE

At Brunswick Park, governors operate a circular model of governance. Full governing body meetings are held monthly and all business is discussed in these meetings. The governing body agrees the school's budget at the beginning of the financial year and regularly monitors this each month to ensure that spending does not exceed the limits set and offers best value for money.

The governing body also monitors the spending of additional money such as Pupil Premium and Sports Premium.

It also considers all matters relating to recruitment and retention of staff and ensures that the school has the best possible teachers and support staff for each individual child to achieve their best possible outcome.

The committee also oversees the school's policies on pay and conditions of staff, as well as the management of their performance. Governors are committed to maintaining a safe and secure building for children and staff to work in.

Number of staff earning £100,000	Number of staff earning £110,000
0	0

GOVERNORS' PRINCIPLES STATEMENT: CHARGING POLICY

All classes go on at least one trip each term linked to the topic they are studying in class.

We do ask parents and carers for voluntary contributions to cover the costs of a variety of school educational activities. This is kept as low as possible, and will vary depending on the overall cost of the trip.

No individual child will be prevented from going on a trip because they have not paid.

We do our best to keep costs to a minimum and we ensure that all activities are a valuable part of the curriculum.

Additionally, we undertake regular fund raising to support major activities like School Journey**.**

Please click here for more information: Current Policies (brunswickparkprimary.co.uk)