



WYBUNBURY DELVES
C of E Primary School



Governor Annual Report 2023 – 2024



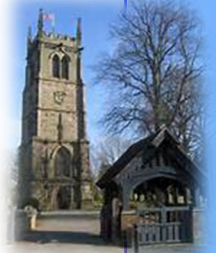
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Welcome to this Annual Report.



As Chair of Wybunbury Delves School, I recognise Governance as a challenging but rewarding part of school life. We all have a part to play in acting as a critical friend to the school. Only by sharing our skills and expertise can we hope to develop and enrich the learning of the pupils who attend the school. I would encourage everyone to make this contribution. If you feel that you can help in any way please contact the office.



The school's last Ofsted inspection was in November 2021 and we continued to be graded as Good. As part of the process the staff received positive feedback.

This is a happy school that lies at the heart of the local community. Leaders are ambitious and have high expectations for every pupil. Staff encourage pupils to do their best each day. Pupils work hard and behave well. They enjoy the challenge of living up to the motivational quotes that are displayed around school, particularly the phrase, 'Let your light shine'. Pupils are safe and well looked after at Wybunbury Delves. They are polite and courteous to each other and the adults who teach them. They understand what bullying is and said that it happens from time to time. However, they are confident that staff will help them to deal with any problems and resolve matters. Children in early years, including those who are two years old, quickly settle into school life. They learn the school's routines and develop very good attitudes to learning. Older pupils enjoy taking on roles and responsibilities, such as those of house captains, play buddies and digital leaders.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent teaching and management of the school.

Mrs. Chesters and her team continue to develop and make Wybunbury an outstanding environment in which to educate and nurture your child. It is an excellent place to send your child. I recommend sending your child to this school to start their educational journey and a lifelong love of learning.

Once again, Mrs. Chesters, has shown vision and dedication, for which, I thank her.

Neil Arnott *Chair of Governors,*
Wybunbury Delves.



Finance Annual Report



Wybunbury Delves CE Primary School has been a member of 'Chester Diocesan Academies Trust' (CDAT) established by the Chester Diocesan Board of Education since June 2017. CDAT has overall responsibility for its academies, including finance, with our local governing board having delegated powers to manage the academy on a day to day basis. Annual reports of accounts are published on the CDAT website.

CDAT strives to develop and maintain sound systems of financial and internal control which meet the requirements of probity and of good financial management. Our school complies with DfE/ESFA guidance set out in CDAT's financial handbook. The general principles of financial management, adopted by CDAT are:-

Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership.

Governors oversee and approve budget setting and monitoring at their half termly meetings, where accounts are presented to them, these having been produced by the CDAT Finance Officer after meeting with the Headteacher and School Business Manager. Monthly reports are sent to school for additional monitoring. Any changes to budget are brought to the governors' attention, and any purchases over £5k require prior governor and/or Trust approval, with 3 quotes having been obtained to ensure 'best value'. This might not always be the cheapest quote, but cost is certainly a major contributing factor!

We need full classes to keep the income coming in, small class sizes are not beneficial to the budget. Pupil numbers fluctuate and the birth rate is dropping so we run Open evenings and advertise in various ways to compete with other schools and nurseries. Please spread the word that Wybunbury Delves is a wonderful school and that people should come for a visit!

Free School Meals – Governors urge parents who think they may qualify for Free School Meals to check eligibility which is a very simple and confidential process. Those who qualify can also ask for various school trips to be paid for via 'Pupil Premium', to be agreed by Mrs Chesters. - Plus school receives funding to help meet the needs of all our children. Ask at the school office for details.

The school is mainly cashless, the only exceptions are fundraising events and an occasional payment where ParentPay isn't possible. As governors, we cannot allow **bad debts** to accumulate, as school requires every penny to balance the school budget. Preschool and Out of School Club run as separate businesses, and have to stand alone with finances. Governors are informed of any debt that is causing concern and decide on consequent action.

Delves Trust - This is a charitable organisation set up in 1862 to support the 3 church schools in the parish of Wybunbury, namely Wybunbury Delves, Stapeley Broad Lane and Bridgemere. Each year the constitution states they donate a sum of money to purchase leaving gifts for Year 6 from the 3 schools, and also contribute towards the cost of building insurance for Wybunbury Delves and Bridgemere school. We are very grateful for this each year.

Charities/Fundraising

As a school we are involved with fundraising through the year, the PTA have their own bank account and have run many events, donating money to school for which we are extremely grateful. Events run by school this year have been:-



Date	Charity	Amount raised £
Nov 23	Operation Christmas Child	Shoebboxes sent
Nov 23	Royal British legion Poppy Appeal	Donations sent
Dec 23	Book Fair commission	£314.83 taken in books
Dec 23	NSPCC Number Day	£155.16
Dec 23	Academy Photos commission	£210.25
Mar 24	Comic Relief	£140.15
Mar 24	Easyfundraising	£210.53
June 24	RSPCA fundraising day	£295.45

Kate Hughes

Health and Safety

Kate Hughes is the governor for H&S. As School Business Manager for over 20 years, she has a wealth of knowledge of Health and Safety, and holds the CSBM qualification (Certificate of School Business Management).



H&S is an integral part of our school life, it underpins all our daily activities and we take it very seriously, from inspecting the school site to dealing with first aid.

This year we have again scored the GOLD award in our annual audit, carried out by our H&S Consultants, Jeanne Fairbrother Associates. We scored the maximum 100%. The audit is thorough, covering all aspects of H&S including emergency lighting, fire and security alarm checks, fire fighting equipment, outside and inside play equipment, boilers, electrical, gas, asbestos, and water testing for legionella, with much more besides.



Fire drills are carried out once per term plus an annual 'invacuation drill' to ensure everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. Staff undertake training

Before each educational visit, a full Risk Assessment is carried out, and we have RA's for each activity in school. Risk can never be completely eliminated, and school budget sometimes prevents us upgrading our school buildings immediately every time a problem is flagged up, but jobs are prioritised and completed as soon as possible. Risk is a part of life and cannot be eliminated completely, however by carrying out RA's, we can reduce risk by introducing control measures and never being complacent.

The entire school site is checked all the time for any problems such as water leaks, rabbit holes on the field, damaged equipment etc, so you can be assured that we take great care to keep the

Kate Hughes



Church school Governance

As a Church school, Wybunbury Delves ensures that all feel valued and welcome and that pupils have the opportunity to develop spiritually and morally within a distinctive Christian environment.

As foundation Governors, we are actively involved in the Christian life of the school, working closely with all members of the school community to support and discuss how effective the schools' distinctive Christian vision, enables pupils and adults to flourish. We seek to promote outstanding teaching and learning in RE and link to other subjects in order to engage with social and cultural issues that arise in our children's lives and the wider community in Modern

Britain. Foundation Governors have undertaken training in this area.

The school has a strong reputation and relationship with the Diocese. The RE and Worship subject lead is an RE Cluster Lead for the Diocese and is able to disseminate new and relevant information, resources and support for the school whilst supporting other schools in fulfilling their roles, which is also shared with governors.

As a school community, we worship daily in the school hall and Reverend Alison Fulford is our vicar who joins us in worship every fortnight. Children's services at St. Chad's are well attended by parents and members of the local community, where year 1 and 2 have hosted Messy Church

with their parents, our year 6 will host their leavers service at the end of term and children across school have hosted Harvest, Christmas and Easter services for their families. Reception class have also hosted Christmas and Easter Messy Church sessions in school with their families.

As governors, we are able to share alongside the school leaders how the biblical teaching roots the schools' vision giving it coherence and relevance.

Liz Ward
Ronke Shotunde



Curriculum

Teaching and Learning

The governors act as critical friends to school leadership, offering challenge and support. Governors attend training that is organised through CDAT and the Diocese; they are invited to relevant curriculum teacher professional Development training arranged through school. Governor visits to school through 2023/2024 have been contact with senior leaders, and teaching staff was retained through in person meetings.

Curriculum Governor visits including Maths and English

Read Write Inc (RWI) has been fully implemented in school to support literacy and received positive feedback from teaching staff, parents and children. The impact of the investment in RWI resources has been shown through the Phonics Screening scores, since November 2021 we have maintained a high level of success with the Phonics Screener.



School have invested in training for a new scheme of work for writing from September 2023. This has allowed us to continue to develop our writers and foster our love of writing through the use of high quality texts.

Kathryn Chesters

This year our maths lead Mrs Burns has worked hard to make sure the lessons are evolving with the curriculum and that power maths is being embedded throughout the school. They are reaping the benefits of getting the core knowledge in early years and building upon that throughout school. They have had visitors in to enrich the children's learning, such as Barclays Bank, and are starting to bring maths into other subject areas to help children gain an all round knowledge of the subject.

Katie Phenton

History and Geography

In Geography and History this year Miss Pennance and Miss Pointon have lead the staff in developing threads of learning across the whole school. For example, in history pupils understanding of a timeline. The Early Years develop recognition that what happened yesterday, or even an hour ago is in the past; that what they hope will happen after school is the future and the moment happening now is the present. Upper Juniors can place Ancient History on the timeline and compare with recent history (20th century) and Middle Ages (Tudors).

In Geography, the pupils continue to make great progress with understanding maps. They use these skills in fieldwork, locating features during Wybunbury walks to the church and The Moss. This leads to making their own maps. Reading maps to help navigate Chester Zoo before the pupil's field trip and afterwards to review the day, helps them enjoy the whole experience. This is an area of further development in the future.



Penny Williams





Early Years

Wybunbury Delves works very hard to constantly improve the Early Years provision that they offer. Governors work with the Early Years lead to see how they are implementing ideas as well as looking at data and new schemes to see how they are impacting the children's well being and achievement. With regular visits and discussions with the Early Years Lead, governors can see the positive impact that the implementation of new schemes has had (Read Write inc, Powermaths and ReadySteadyWrite). The Early Years team work closely together to make sure that the schemes allow directed, enhanced and provision elements of learning to be at maximum benefit for the children. Having these consistent schemes, that are then continued throughout the school, has provided continuity for the children and greatly supported their learning and transition. Governors know where Early Years provision is wanting to go in the future, with clear ideas being discussed at meetings. The Early Years team and the Governors strive to deliver an environment that meets the needs of all the children, taking regular training to support this. With the introduction of the new Early Years reforms and framework, the Early Years team has worked hard to develop their curriculum to support the needs of children and to help them to flourish in a warm and welcoming environment. They make sure that children are equipped to be able to enjoy, succeed and celebrate their uniqueness as they continue with their journey through the school



Helen Hunter

Our Curriculum

Our Curriculum is based on a 'Learning Tree' Approach to Curriculum Design. We have adapted the concept to ensure it encompasses our school motto, 'Towards the Light', our aims and values as we strive to 'Let our Light Shine' Matthew 5:16



Strong Foundations – The Rocks

Our school's context the curriculum grows from here, it keeps our curriculum anchored securely.

The Light House – the heart of our curriculum which gives it Core Strength.

The Sea – Our Aims, values and ethos which enfold around all aspects of our curriculum and school life.

The Shining Light - all of the other subjects and topics which are our curriculum. They are dependent on the 'Rocks and the Lighthouse', they always reach out from the Lighthouse to the sky and beyond, the ambition within the curriculum and the drive for our children to become leading lights in our community and our world.

The Clouds - the enhancements and enrichments to our curriculum – visits, visitors, clubs, curriculum extras and theme days. They surround our curriculum to enrich the experience.

SPARK – Our driver for planning.

S – Spirituality **P** – Practical **A** – Asking Questions **R** - Resilience **K** - Knowledge

Kathryn Chesters

Through 2023-24 the school have continued to adjust and strength our curriculum delivery to impact on our children's attainment.

2023/24 School have completed all the statutory data collections. This means school have assessed and submitted data for

- Early Learning Goal (ELG) attainment at the end of Reception—teacher assessment against ELG statements
- Year 1 Phonics Screening Test—delivered by the class teacher, completed individually in June.
- Year 2 Phonics Screening Test for those who did not make it in Year 1
- Year 4 Multiplication Online Test—individually taken test done online
- Year 6 SATS were in May 23 and teacher assessment judgements for writing and science form the end of Key Stage 2 judgements

Data from these national attainment judgements and comparisons to the national picture will be available in the Autumn term.

This year the statutory assessment for the End of Key Stage 1—Year 2 was removed.

Internally school make 'on track' judgements at the end of each term using NFER Reading tests and White Rose Maths assessments, writing is internally moderated. This allows us to plan for next steps, intervention and challenge.

Kathryn Chesters

Pupil Premium report

The government provides additional funding for individual pupils, in the form of the Pupil Premium (PP). This funding is provided for pupils who are eligible for free school meals, are children of service personnel or who are Looked After Children.

Miss McCurrie is the staff lead for Pupil Premium and Looked After Children and must produce an annual Pupil Premium Strategy that identifies how the monies are utilised and reviews the impacts and outcomes of this funding for disadvantaged learners.

As the Lead Governor in this area, my role is to ensure that the statutory requirements governing the use of these monies are being adhered to, and that their use and the outcomes for pupils are available in the public domain, through the school website.

I completed up-date training with CDAT (23.03.2023) and last met with Miss McCurrie (16.04.2024) to conduct our regular review of this work.

The Pupil Strategy is up-to-date and available on the school's website:

[strategy statement \(wybunburydelves.co.uk\)](https://www.wybunburydelves.co.uk)

[Pupil premium](#)

9.1% of the pupil population have benefitted from pupil premium funding during 2023/24, (although this number fluctuates as children enter and leave the school during the year) This represents a total budget of £41,985.

Details of how these monies have been spent are explained on the website and identify an emphasis on additional staffing, targeted academic support and wider strategies to support pupil behaviour, attendance and well-being. We focus on supporting all disadvantaged children, irrespective of ability, to achieve their highest potential.

All families entitled to claim Free School Meals are encouraged to do so. PP funding is based on an annual census that must be submitted in early 2025 and it is understood that more families may need to take advantage of this service. Consequently, the Pupil Premium strategy is up-dated annually and the School's 2024/25 version will be published (in line with the Government's guidelines), by the end of December 2024.

Janet Clowes

Inclusion and Special Educational Needs

Wybunbury Delves strives to ensure that all children regardless of their ability or additional needs have access to the full curriculum and are encouraged to fulfil their potential emotionally, socially, spiritually and academically. In the main this is achieved by 'quality first teaching', implementing appropriate teaching strategies and adapting the curriculum when necessary as well as calling on additional resources as appropriate, but maintaining inclusion at the heart of a child's learning.

The additional programs available to be deployed by the SEN team supporting a child are under regular review to ensure the interventions used are in line with current research and thinking, highly effective and provide an excellent return for the effort and time the child spends devoted to them, and perhaps away from the main curriculum or their leisure time within school hours.

The Cheshire East Special Educational Needs (SEN) toolkit has been used in the school since December 2017. It gives all teaching staff a clear understanding of the process of support for children with SEN and aids in the identification of behaviour patterns or issues with learning progress that should trigger the need to look for further support for a child. All teaching staff have been trained to use this effectively by Miss Welch, the SEN coordinator (SENCO).

Parents are actively encouraged to be involved in the process of planning and implementing the support of a child with additional learning needs. For those with an SEN support plan meetings are scheduled for the beginning of each term either with the class teacher or SENCO, or both. These allow for a discussion of concerns, action plans reviews and planning the next steps for their child. Effective tracking of a child's progress by staff ensures regular review of the strategies and interventions being used and identifies which are working well and those which are not and require adjustment or a change in approach.

Wybunbury Delves strives for a collaborative approach, with an open door policy for SEN parents. Additional meetings with the class teacher or SENCO can be arranged as needed, whilst parents of children with more complex or higher levels of need will have an additional annual review of their child's Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP). This may involve outside health and education agencies such as SaLT, CEAT, Educational Psychologists, Emotional Healthy Schools, CAMHS, Dieticians, School Nurses, and Physiotherapy.

There is a strong system in place to record the pertinent and necessary pupil information to ensure the details required to support the child in the current moment and the agreed plans for the future are available all appropriate staff. This aids not only in the support of pupils both in existing classes and as they move up through the school.

Ofsted in November 2021 report:

Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported well. The leader for SEND works closely with teachers so that pupils' needs are identified accurately and early. Leaders help staff to work out the best way for pupils with SEND to access the same curriculum as their peers. They work effectively with specialist agencies when pupils have more complex needs.



Learning Knows No Bounds

Safeguarding

At Wybunbury Delves Church of England Primary School staff and governors recognise and embrace their statutory duty to safeguard children. The school provides safe and effective care for their children, families and staff as a part of the school family. Wybunbury Delves recognise that safeguarding is required to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.



Safeguarding in schools can be defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment whilst in the care of the school

- Preventing anything that might impair a child's health or development within the school environment

- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

- Taking all necessary action to ensure that children are given equal access to the best learning and life outcomes

The school regularly discusses safeguarding within local governors meetings, staff meetings and inset days. Staff and governors all complete safeguarding training regularly and hold appropriate DBS checks which are held within the single central record. These records are checked periodically by governors.

Mandy Branders is no longer the Safeguarding Governor and Louise Humber took over his role in September 2023. Miss McCurrie continues in the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) supported by Mrs Chesters and Mrs Burns as deputies.

Governor visits have taken place each term and topics of discussion have included parental mental health, adverse childhood experiences, online safety, persistent absence and the impact of the cost of living crisis. During visits discussion has also covered changes in statutory legislation including Keeping Children Safe in Education and Working Together.

The school has effective policies and procedures which are read by staff and governors and are regularly updated. There are good systems and practices in place at Wybunbury Delves and staff are able to effectively identify safeguarding issues and support for the children and their families.

At Wybunbury Delves, we are committed to ensuring the safety of our children, staff and parents. Believing that this is not only a statutory requirement, but a biblical mandate as "the light in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it (John 1:5).



Louise Humber - Safeguarding Governor

Mental & Emotional Health

This year Mrs Pinton and Miss Welch have changed the way our school looks at well-being, seeking to improve upon last years lessons. It is wonderful to see how the new system has been received by the children. Children across school talk about their well-being time very positively and are learning so many strategies to help them cope with difficulties in school and at home. Each child I spoke to values their wellbeing books very highly and benefits hugely from having this time in the week to work with some freedom and has a real sense of ownership over their book. They also used this last term to look at the transition to their next year group which was a fantastic idea.

Katie Phenton



Neil Arnott Chair of Governors / Delves Trust Working with the Senior Management Team, Neil strives to deliver a school that is inclusive and a place where you would want your children to be educated.



Janet Clowes / Delves Trust Janet is a CDAT Foundation Governor. She is also the local councillor for the Wybunbury Ward and finds the role of governor invaluable in better understanding the families and communities she represents. She is on the standards committee and is the named person for Safeguarding and Pupil Premium. Janet has lived locally for 30 years, has 3 sons and has recently supported the development of the Wybunbury Combined Parishes Neighbourhood Plan. Her career background was originally as a nursing sister and then as a postgraduate lecturer at University College, Chester.



Kate Hughes Staff Governor / School Business Manager / Delves Trust Secretary Kate has worked at Wybunbury Delves School since 2001, running the school office team. Her role as Business Manager involves working with Mrs Chesters to process the school's finance and procurement system, administer HR and oversee the buildings/grounds in regard to H&S, maintenance etc. She has been support staff governor for many years. Kate attends Nantwich Elim church and is involved with running weekly prayer groups for both adults and children here at school.



Liz Ward: Liz has worked at Wybunbury Delves since 2000. She coordinates Religious Education and Worship and was instrumental in helping the school achieve "outstanding" in the recent Church School Inspection in 2017 and achieving The Church of England RE Quality Mark.



Helen Hunter—Parent Governor Helen was originally from Cheshire, but has lived in Scotland and Durham. She returned back to Cheshire 8 years ago. She is a primary school teacher who has experience teaching children in a variety of different educational settings, across both key stages. She has two children; a son in Year 2 and a daughter in Preschool.



Ronke Shotunde Ronke moved to Cheshire from Nigeria in 2019 and is a member of Nantwich Elim Church. She recently joined the Local Governing Board as a way to serve and support her local community. She is a trained dentist and currently works in a local dental practice as a dental hygienist in Nantwich. She enjoys reading.



Penny Williams Penny has a background in teaching and is a member of Nantwich Elim church. Previously in Kent, Penny has been a member of her local village church's leadership team and has had a long association with the nearby Assembly of God church. Both of her children have recently become parents; her daughter lives in Nantwich with her family and her son lives in Worcestershire.

Camilla Du Pavey—Parent Governor Camilla currently has a daughter at Wybunbury Delves and a son. Originally from Oxfordshire, Camilla moved to the North West in 2004 and has made her home here ever since. She started her career in the pharmaceutical industry but is now the director of 2 local businesses. In her downtime, Camilla enjoys all the local countryside has to offer with riding and walking being top of her agenda!

Kathryn Chesters Head Teacher



A member of staff since September 1999, working as a Teacher in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, part of the Senior Leadership team as Senior Teacher and then Deputy Head. I was then successful in being appointed by CDAT as Head Teacher for September 2018. I work closely with the CDAT central team and other heads to ensure we can deliver the very best for our families here at WD.



Louise Humber Louise has a background in children's Social Work and now works for Elim International advising over 450 churches about safeguarding. She sits on a Local Authority Fostering panel and Safeguarding Adults Board. She is originally from Stoke on Trent and moved to the area in 2017. Louise attends Nantwich Elim Church with her husband and two children. Her daughter also attends the school.

Katie Phenton



Katie is one of our new foundation governor's who hopes to help the school continue to uphold its Christian values and assist the school in looking after the wellbeing of its pupils as the new wellbeing and PHSE governor. Katie has two sons, one at the school and another starting preschool very soon! She is a stay at home mum and dedicates what time she can to serving in her church at Nantwich Elim.