



# Governance Statement Local Governing Body Angel Road Federation

July 2020

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Angel Road Federation Local Governing Body (LGB) are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the performance of the school and its pupils including standards and attendance;
3. Monitoring the effective spend of ring-fenced grants.

In common with all academy schools specifically responsibilities delegated to the LGB in relation to the above functions are detailed in the EAT Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference.

## **Governance Arrangements**

The governing body of Angel Road Federation was re-constituted in September 2019 and was made up of 2 staff governors, 2 elected parent representative, 1 x community governor, both Heads of School (HoS) and the Executive Principal (EP). In early 2020 an additional 2 x parent representatives and 1 x community representative joined the LGB membership.

The full Local Governing Body usually meets twice each term and 6 times over the course of an academic year.

<p><b>Attendance record of Governors</b></p>	<p>Governors have an excellent attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decision can be made). Due to Covid-19 the March 2020 meeting was cancelled and replaced with sharing a written briefing paper (prepared by the EP and HoS) inviting comments from the LGB members. Subsequent meetings have taken place (May and July 2020) online.</p>
<p><b>Governance context</b></p>	<p>In September 2019 the Angel Road Federation Oversight Team (SOT), which was set up when the school joined Diversa Academy Trust, changed to being a Local Governing Body (LGB) as the school joined Evolution Academy Trust.</p> <p>This Governance statement has been prepared by the Chair, and has been approved by the LGB membership.</p>

<p><b>Local Governing Body activities</b></p>	<p><b>Covid-19 (C19)</b></p> <p>The impact of the pandemic has been very challenging to everyone. The partial closure of the school occurred shortly before Easter break with hard copy home learning packs on offer to all children and families. The Oak Academy offer was ready for children and families on what would have been the start of the summer term. The LGB monitored the school approach to following up with families who were not accessing the online learning platforms and found the school to be pro-active in its approach to keeping in contact with children and supporting their learning and engagement during lockdown. All children received phone calls from their teachers regularly throughout lockdown.</p> <p>Once the school increased provision (from providing spaces for children of key-workers and vulnerable children to include offers of bubble places in designated year groups) it was the role of the LGB to monitor how the school may be addressing any educational gap between those in school and those home learning. Until children return to school and assessments has been completed in the autumn term, the true extent of educational difference will not be known. School leaders are focused on finding out what children have been learning and doing during Lockdown, valuing those activities and working to provide narrow any gabs in progress or attainment. The School Improvement and Development Plan includes a focus on tailored support for children who would benefit from it. The role of the LGB will be to monitor these activities in the new academic year.</p> <p>The LGB noted how improvements to school communications from the start of the academic year in September 2019 supported the school in its ambition to communicate regularly through emailed weekly letters from both the EP and HoS throughout the period when not all children were in school. Both schools' websites have also been an effective tool in supporting school communications.</p> <p>The LGB Chair and the EP have been in regular contact since March 2020 lockdown with the aim of offering support and challenge. The Chair has also attended EAT briefings with the content of each meeting being discussed and shared with the LGB.</p> <p>Responsibilities concerning school premises and Health &amp; Safety sit with EAT but the LGB have seen risk assessments related to the school and were satisfied with their rigour and how key messages related to expanding provision in school were communicated to families.</p>
	<p><b>School Improvement and Development Plan (SIDP)</b></p> <p>At the start of the year the Angel Road Federation LGB was focusing on supporting the school to achieve the aims stated in the SIDP. Key aims of the plan focused on improving attainment (the individual progress each child makes) and achievement (measured against national standards). The LGB would usually undertake a review of achievement and attainment through a review of the data which comes from the Statutory Assessment Tests (SAT's) but due to C19 these national tests did not take place and therefore there was no data to analyse.</p>

	<p><b>Staffing</b></p> <p>Angel Road Federation's Acting Executive Principal was made permanent in Spring 2020. The LGB view this with great positivity as she brings significant experience of school leadership and a clear drive to raise standards across the school.</p> <p>1 new permanent member of teaching staff was appointed during lockdown to Angel Road Junior School using rigorous online interview processes.</p>
	<p><b>Evolution Academy Trust (EAT)</b></p> <p>Since joining EAT it has been reported at several LGB meetings the positive benefits of being part of a larger but still primary school focused trust. The quality of training and support from EAT has also been repeatedly mentioned. During the C19 pandemic Angel Road Federation has benefitted from the Health and Safety Lead and Premises Officer EAT employs.</p> <p>On the recommendation of the Executive Principal the trust has commissioned high quality internationally acclaimed consultants who have provided direct support for our school. This is particularly notable in the recent development in our early years provision including the nurseries and also for the aspirational curriculum development that is being undertaken.</p> <p>The trust also provides opportunities for school leaders and other staff to collaborate and share good practice.</p>
	<p><b>Monitoring</b></p> <p>At the start of the academic year the LGB Chair and Executive Principal drew up a comprehensive mentoring schedule. The expectation - that the Chair would meet the EP / HoS at least once a month - was met up to March 2020. The Chair took responsibility for safeguarding which included checking the Single Central Register. This was found to be up to date and rigorous.</p> <p>The following monitoring visits took place over the academic year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safeguarding – Anna Catlin and Karen Long</li> <li>- Nursery and EYFS – Anna Catlin and Lindsay Moody</li> <li>- Learning environments (reading focus) – Anna Catlin and Josh Dowgill</li> <li>- Monitoring training report - Rowan Pimm</li> <li>- Feedback from curriculum launch – Josh Dowgill and Muir Roberts</li> <li>- Website review - LGB</li> </ul> <p>The monitoring schedule was interrupted by the COVID 19 pandemic.</p>

	<p><b>LGB membership and special responsibilities</b></p> <p>In the autumn term we sought to recruiting new parent governors and an additional community representatives to bring new expertise and to grow the LGB membership. As of February 2020 we have two new parent representatives and an additional community representative to help being support and challenge to the school and its leadership team.</p> <p>We have a nominated governor for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding</li> <li>• Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)</li> <li>• Pupil Premium</li> <li>• LAC</li> </ul> <p>These governors pay specifically attention to this area of work, undertaking monitoring activities and reporting back to the full LGB meetings which occur every half term.</p> <p>Succession planning for a new LGB Chair was undertaken in the summer term involving the Chair, Executive Principal, EAT and the EAT link trustee. It was agreed an interim chair would be sought and the position will be filled ready for the start of the next academic year.</p>
	<p><b>Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted)</b></p> <p>In November the LGB undertook training led by the EAT CEO in around changes to the framework and where areas of responsibility sit within the governance structure for the school. In March due to Covid-19 situation inspections were suspended to remove the unnecessary burden on schools during the pandemic.</p>
	<p><b>Minutes and Record keeping</b></p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents. A digital copy is held within GovernorHub so they are accessible to members and EAT. Hard Copies are held at School House, Angel Road School. Contact the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings but please be aware some sections could be redacted.</p>

<p><b>Future plans for the Angel Road Federation LGB</b></p>	<p><b>Ofsted</b>  Help the school to prepare for and have a working knowledge of the Ofsted visits (possible from September 2020) and full inspections (from January 2021) in collaboration with EAT.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing and Workload: Staff</b>  Across schools nationally the pandemic has placed huge demands leaders and staff. At Angel Road Federation it is important that all staff are supported to do their best work for the children. The LGB will work with the school to review wellbeing and workload and analyse any available data from EAT surveys.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing: Children</b>  Monitoring activities the school undertakes focused on the wellbeing of children will be a focus for the Autumn term. It will also be important to ascertain views of children through a pupil voice monitoring activity which will take place in Summer 2021.</p> <p><b>In School and Online Educational provision</b>  In the event of further partial closures of schools the LGB will again monitor the school's educational offer to both in school children and those engaged in home learning. Digital poverty and the EAT response, approach and strategy to address this will be discussed at local school level.</p> <p><b>Recruiting a new Chair of LGB</b>  Secure an experienced Chair of Governors on a permanent basis.</p> <p><b>School Policies</b>  In Autumn 1, the Angel Road Federation LGB will review and approve all Local Policies: admissions; SEND; safeguarding and child protection; curriculum; behaviour.</p>
<p><b>How you can contact the governing body</b></p>	<p>The LGB always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents, carers and the wider school community. Please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings on the Governors' page of the schools' websites.  <a href="http://www.angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk/governors/">http://www.angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk/governors/</a>  <a href="http://www.angelroadinfant.co.uk/governors/">http://www.angelroadinfant.co.uk/governors/</a></p>
<p><b>Signed</b></p>	<p>Anna Catlin  Chair</p> <p>Angel Road Federation Governing Body  July 2020</p>

	<p><b>2019/2020 Angel Road Federation LGB</b></p> <p>Chair: Anna Catlin Vice Chair: Hanna Koren Furre</p> <p><b>Governors with allocated responsibilities:</b> RSE: Hannah Koren Furre Safeguarding Lead: Anna Catlin Staff wellbeing: Josh Dowgill Pupil Premium: Debs Hale SEND: Sarah Quantrill EAL: Muir Roberts</p>
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Name	Role	Date appointed	Appointed by	Business or other interest	Attendance 2019-2020

