



Goose Green Primary School

Strategic Plan

2017 – 2020

Foreword

We are pleased to present our strategic plan for Goose Green School. Our intention in developing the plan is to set out and communicate our vision, ethos and long-term direction for the school, so that we are all clear on where we are going and what we are trying to achieve.

Goose Green Primary and Nursery School is an academy and part of the Communitas Education Trust. The age range is 3 – 11 (nursery to year 6) with two forms of entry. The local community is very diverse, with a mix of nationalities and economic groups, giving a great variety of languages and social and ethnic background within the school community. More pupils than average are at an early stage of speaking English.

We publish this plan during the first year with our new headteacher, Mr Wattam, and as part of the Communitas Education Trust. Communitas is a small multi-academy trust that currently oversees two schools. We are all excited to welcome Mr Wattam to the school and to be working with Communitas, both of whom bring a wealth of experience in school leadership and improvement which position the school to build on existing strengths and further enhance the school as a great place for children, parents and staff.

We would welcome any comments or suggestions.

Simon Wattam, Head Teacher

Bridie Tooher, Chair of Governors

1. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

WHAT AND WHO?

The strategic plan is a high level long-term plan for Goose Green. It sets out the school's vision, values and long-term strategic priorities. It is aimed at the key stakeholders in the school, children and their parents or carers, staff, governors and other stakeholders.

The strategic plan is complemented by the School Development Plan (SDP), a shorter-term operational plan written for each school year. The SDP is developed by the staff team and sets out in operational terms how the long-term strategy of the school is to be achieved.

HOW WE DEVELOPED THE PLAN

This plan was developed by the school leadership team and the governing body having taken input from staff, parents, carers and the children.

A strategic planning session was held with the school senior leadership team, governors and the CEO of Communitas in October 2017. The focus of this event was on development of the vision and beliefs of the school including our priorities for this year and the years to come.

The Head Teacher also held a planning session with staff at the inset day in September 2017 which focused on creating a vision for the school that they wanted to be part of developing.

The draft vision and plan was presented to governors in November 2017 for review and was further iterated.

The views of parents and carers obtained during the last parent survey and from recent 'Town Hall' meetings were incorporated into the plan. We also considered Ofsted feedback from our inspection in February 2017. Throughout the year the School Council has been sharing its views with the senior leadership team and these views have been reflected.

The plan will be reviewed annually at the first Governing Body meeting of the school year.

2. VISION, MISSION AND VALUES STATEMENT

Goose Green is a values-led school. By this we mean that there are certain principles that explicitly underpin not only the things that we do, but also the ways in which we do them. Indeed, we recognise that it is often not *what* we do that counts, but *how* we do it that is most important. By adhering to these values, we aim to help the children to develop in a rounded way, meeting their emotional and social needs as well as their academic needs.

We believe that these principles provide the best conditions for children to grow into global citizens. They sit alongside the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance. Bringing these together, our aim is to ensure that the environment in which we learn is conducive to the best academic learning that there can be and that children gain a deep understanding of their own identity in a complex and ever-changing world.

Goose Green is part of the Communitas Education Trust. We share a similar set of values with the Trust and it supports us to deliver our vision and mission for the school in accordance with those values.

VISION

Children will leave Goose Green having achieved their full potential as independent, resilient and curious learners who are ready for the next stage in their learning journey. This is embodied in our motto *Life, Learning and Laughter*.

MISSION

Our mission is to:

- Provide a rich and engaging environment which encourages curiosity, creativity, fun, awe and wonder.
- Support children to learn and to challenge themselves every day, to be purposeful in what they do and to become independent learners.
- Enable children to achieve their best.
- Build relationships within the school, locally, nationally and internationally.
- Be inclusive. Everyone is welcome at Goose Green, but everyone must try their very best. We are ambitious for ourselves and one another.

VALUES

Our vision is realised through our values, which are:

- Equity – we value ourselves and we respect others, we want everyone to succeed.
- Kindness – we understand that treating each other well brings out the best in all of us.
- Pride – in our identity as individuals and our collective identity as a school community.
- Aspiration – we always try our best because we want to do well.
- Trust – we know that we all have a part to play in the life of the school. We all do what is our responsibility, trusting and believing that others will do theirs. We know that this builds good relationships.
- Positivity – having a ‘can do’ attitude transforms the ways that we approach our work and our learning.

3. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

IMPROVE OUR ACADEMIC RESULTS

We will improve our academic results at key stage 2 so that these are at or above the national standard and maintain and continue to improve the good results we already have in the early years and at key stage 1. We monitor and evaluate pupil progress data to ascertain whether all students make rapid and sustained progress. We use this information to help us support the children in their learning, ensuring that each child is challenged appropriately in order to secure the best outcomes.

MAINTAIN OUR UNIQUE, BROAD CURRICULUM

We will embed the topic-based curriculum that is aligned across our learning, where children and teachers have permission to take the learning in interesting directions. We are proud of our music, art and PE specialists and seek to provide opportunities to learn in creative ways in all areas of the curriculum.

DEVELOP CHILDREN WHO LOVE TO LEARN

We know that children learn best when what they are learning is meaningful to them. We ensure that our teaching is relevant to the children and is rooted in real-life contexts. Our teaching methods are exciting and experiences are stimulating for all children. We prepare children for the next phase of their education through supporting them to achieve the most of their academic potential and equipping them with personal confidence and a love of learning.

EMBRACE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Our diversity is a strength and we understand and cater for different needs. Our families and our staff are important to us and we listen, hear and respond. We work collaboratively with other schools in the Communitas Trust so that we can learn together. We are proud of our school and we will continue to build its reputation in the community.

In addition to these priorities we oversee, monitor and implement strong financial control so that the school can provide the best possible education for our children.

4. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

This strategic plan sets out four strategic priorities and gives long-term direction for implementation. The School Development Plan (SDP) describes how this strategy is to be implemented in the short to medium term.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Each committee of the governing body monitors the development and implementation of the school development plan. The committees report on this to the full Governing Body.

In turn, our Governing Body reports to the Trustees of Communitas Education Trust, who hold us to account for our the children's progress and outcomes, and the financial stability of the school. At times it is also appropriate for us to seek external validation from consultants to review the implementation of our strategy.