

RICHARDSON DEES PRIMARY SCHOOL
GOVERNING BODY
ASSETS COMMITTEE

(Finance, Premises and Health and Safety)

IMPACT STATEMENT: 2022-2023

Whilst many of the challenges of living with Covid have receded, the long-term effects of the national lockdown and remote learning are becoming increasingly apparent for many pupils. The resulting issues, together with the cost of living crisis, have given rise to significant operational and financial pressures on our school. With regard to Governance, we have continued to operate effectively holding all our sub-committee meetings virtually. Operating in this way, we have continued to make a considerable positive impact on the performance, financial integrity, physical environment and safety of our school.

Specific areas of impact during this time include:

- Despite the cost of living crisis, our level and consistency of financial and budget scrutiny has enabled us to come through another challenging year with a healthy surplus. It has also given us the ability to make physical improvements to the school building (replacement of strip lights) and assist with the provision of uniforms.
- In spite of the budgetary pressures faced by the school, careful and responsible oversight has allowed pupils to be offered a full and diverse curriculum including activities, services and educational visits. School has also been able to continue to offer its pupils the much-valued breakfast club free of charge. School can look ahead to the next financial year with confidence.
- The Committee was instrumental in prompting a discussion within the full Governing Body about succession planning within the SLT, following the announcement a member of the SLT planned to retire. This intervention facilitated an early restructuring of the SLT and prepared the way for an orderly planned handover.
- Our SVFS was submitted ahead of time and was accepted with only requests for minor points of clarification.
- We have taken opportunities to gain any additional funding we can to minimise the risk of a shortfall of resources.
- We continue to challenge the school to critically examine our SLA arrangements to ensure we get the best value for money possible. The Headteacher and School Business Manager continue to be proactive in reviewing these arrangements and pursuing alternative provision where this exists.
- We continue to monitor the costs and benefits of the North Tyneside Learning Trust and this continues to add value to the school. Specifically matched funding has enabled us to train more staff in Thrive practices than we would have been able to fund.
- Our continued close attention to Health and Safety has resulted in a commitment from the Local Authority to completely replace the roof and windows in the near future.
- A key focus of the committee has been the continued monitoring of our SIP Priority on attendance .