



## Governor Values Statement

### “Working Hand in Hand to Achieve Potential”

The mission statement of the school embodies the vision and values of the Senior Leadership Team at Horton Lodge, and is shared by all groups and individuals who are involved with the school, including the governors. As the governing body, we assert the value of every individual and are committed to ensuring that all children are able to achieve their potential. We recognise that for this to happen, Horton Lodge must provide a safe and nurturing learning environment, there must be high aspiration, and we must all work together.

As governors, we have a specific role in seeking to fulfil the school’s mission. According to government guidance, the core functions of the governing body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

These three functions are integrated into the priorities identified in the school’s mission statement:

#### Achieving Potential

The children who attend Horton Lodge are individuals, and require personalised programmes to support their learning and enable them to thrive. As governors, we seek to ensure that school leaders are delivering high quality education through support that is tailored to the needs of the individual child.

We are clear that programmes for children at Horton Lodge must prioritise opportunities, both within and beyond the formal curriculum, to develop their physical, social, emotional, communication, and independence skills. The governors are strongly committed to Kiplings residential provision because we believe that it offers an invaluable extra-curricular opportunity for children to develop these. Assessment at Horton Lodge focuses strongly on children’s progress in these areas.

We fully support the Conductive Education ethos at Horton Lodge, which is embedded in every part of school life. Through this ethos, children are enabled to work with their motor disability in order to make progress and move towards independence.

As governors, we greatly value and respect the high degree of knowledge and skill within the staff team at Horton Lodge. We seek to ensure that staff have ongoing access to appropriate professional development so that they can continue to deliver a curriculum that both meets individual needs, and also offers children an appropriate level of stretch and challenge to be the best that they can be.

Confident that leaders and staff at Horton Lodge have high aspirations for each pupil, the governing body has equivalent aspirations for the school as a whole. We work with leaders to ensure that the school is continually improving, and is regarded highly in the wider community. We hold leaders to account for this, seeking to ensure that the school's future is secure, both financially and within the Staffordshire school network.

### Working Hand in Hand

None of the above can be achieved if we do not work together: governors work closely with school leaders and, through them, maintain links with school staff, parents and carers, and other professionals in the joint enterprise of supporting all children to achieve their potential.

Whilst responsibility for the day-to-day strategic running of the school is delegated to the headteacher, governors continually monitor the effectiveness of wider working relationships in identifying and meeting the needs of individual children, providing opportunities for growth and development in pupils and staff, and achieving the high aspirations we have for all children and for the school as a whole.