**Governing Body Impact and Effectiveness Annual Statement 2020/21**

For the second year, the pandemic has had a massive effect on the school and the Governors have been unable to meet face-to-face since March 2020. However, the governing board has continued to support the school as effectively as it can under these circumstances. The following outline what steps have been taken:

* The full governing body has continued to hold its meetings via Zoom. The meetings have been generally well-attended and pertinent questions have been asked. Through these meetings, the governors have also been able to show its support of the staff during these demanding times
* Sub-committee meetings have continued to be held via Zoom. These meetings have ensured that throughout the year, both the academic and financial standards have been maintained as well as monitoring the mental and physical health of the staff and pupils
* Through GovernorHub, governors have been able to monitor health and safety procedures implemented by the school as well as safeguarding. All governors have been encouraged to make full use of GovernorHub to enable them to keep fully abreast of the activities and needs of the school
* The chair of governors has managed to continue meeting with Liz Foster each month to discuss staff welfare, disadvantaged pupils, general maintaining of a safe environment in school along with many other issues which have arisen during the year.
* It needs to be said that a number of governors have missed being able to go into school to offer support especially with reading. This has been a vital role as it helps develop a relationship with both pupils and staff leading to a better understanding of the demands of providing an all- round education in a small school.

Hopefully, the coming year will not see a repeat of the last two years. We have lost a few long-time governors recently but look forward to having new, enthusiastic people joining us. The impact of the pandemic will be with us for many years and the governing body will need to continue to support school whilst making sure that the pupils get the best education they can – academically, physically and mentally. Luckily, Cromford School has long had a holistic approach to education.