

WHEATFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2024/25

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at the school throughout the course of the 2024/25 academic year.

Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance

The Instrument of Government allows for 11 governors across different categories.

Current membership: 8

Current vacancies: 3

Through the course of the 2024/25 Academic Year, the Governing Body has lost 2 governor and gained 2 governors.

Chair: ANDY MOFFAT

Vice Chair: Vacant

Clerk: JANE LEARNER

Attendance: Over the course of the year, Governors at Wheatfields Primary School demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work.

Link to attendance record on school website:

https://www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk/governor_attendance

The Structure of Governance

The Board uses the circle model and has met as a Full Board 9 times this year.

The Governing Body has a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the particular areas of responsibility.

In addition to the above, the school also constitutes a Pay Committee and Headteacher Performance Management Panel annually.

Committees related to particular purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy guidance.

Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to:

- Detailed review and setting of budget with a falling role
- Working with SLT to manage a continuing review of the class structure
- "...governors are outward-looking. They have benefited from guidance provided by experts. This has enabled them to develop the school further" (OFSTED School report December 2024)

The main challenges faced and addressed by the Board this year have been:

- Falling role and consequential effect on budget
- Significant mobility of new starters to the school, particularly from overseas
- Ongoing building maintenance

Governor Training

Governors work is collectively, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- Safeguarding for Governance
- SEND: What Governors Need to Know
- Governor OFSTED training
- Termly Governance Briefing

Governor Monitoring

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the curriculum, or school development).

Throughout the course of this year, Governors have undertaken particular monitoring in relation to;

- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Behaviour and Attitudes
- Leadership and Management

Compliance

The Governing Board has ensured that an effective safeguarding culture is in place. Our work includes:

- Undertaking training
- Visit
- Inspection of single central record
- Standing item on Governing Board meetings

The Governing Board has ensured that the relevant policies and procedures are in place with current policies viewable via <https://www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk/downloads>

Forward Planning

- Annual review of the School Development Plan
- Budget monitoring and setting
- Allocation of roles and responsibilities, including link governors

Other information and contact

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found via the Our School tab at <https://www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk/>

The Governing Board welcomes contact with all stakeholders via the School.