



Governing Body Impact Statement 2024-2026

The role of the Governing Body is an essential part of the leadership of the school. The Governing Body Impact statement is a document in which the Governors can set out their role in school leadership, the impact which they have had on school improvement and be transparent about their activities.

The governing body is made up of 12 members from a variety of backgrounds who bring different skills, experience and expertise. It includes two parent governors, who are chosen by parents. Other governors are appointed by the council and the Church of England (Diocese), who fund the school, or co-opted onto the governing body because of their particular knowledge and expertise. The Headteacher, a staff representative and the local Vicar are also on the Governing body. We are all committed to ensuring the wellbeing, progress and achievement of every child at Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery.

In addition to our regular Full Governing Body meetings there are two committees that meet at least once per term: Resources and Personnel & Teaching and Learning.

Each governor is appointed to at least one of these committees.

The three core functions of a Governing Body are:

- Setting the strategic direction of the school which includes a vision for the future
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- Ensuring financial resources are competently managed with expenditure providing value for money

Governors' roles

The Governors' regular work includes:

- Setting challenging professional targets, and taking part in the performance appraisal for the head teacher
- Asking robust and challenging questions of the head teacher and Senior Leadership Team which result in holding the Headteacher to account for the continued improvement in attainment and progress
- Supporting the Headteacher in his role
- Individual governors work with dedicated subject leaders to develop their subject across the school including obtaining new resources for their key subject areas, and monitoring the achievement and progress of children within that subject area. Normally, this includes regular visits to the school to meet the relevant staff and see examples of children's work. Certain Link governors also work with the Headteacher and staff to monitor the spiritual well-being of pupils. This includes embracing the Christian values of the school, attending and monitoring Collective Worship and reviewing the RE provision
- Conducting pupil interviews, speaking to the children about their learning

- Working with the Headteacher to select and appoint new staff, determine staff pay reviews and performance management targets. This includes playing a major part in the recruitment of a new head teacher, whenever the need arises.
- Supporting policy work which includes regular reviews and updates of policies in line with legislation and developing policies specific to the school
- School staffing structure – monitoring the staffing needs of the school for the following year within a tightening budget
- Carrying out the annual Health and Safety audit, and visiting the school to perform termly health and safety inspections.
- Liaising with the Headteacher to set the annual budget and monitoring spending throughout the year
- Ensuring a strong link with the church, including activities throughout the year (e.g. The Easter Experience)
- Acting as liaison between school and other bodies, such as the Parish Council and Salisbury and Burroughs Educational Foundation Trust
- Supporting the school by attending school events, including church services
- Taking a part in the formal complaints and exclusions processes, including serving on committees that may be called upon to rule on any complaints or exclusions
- Meeting OFSTED when inspections are carried out, to answer questions on the workings of the school and the governing body. Ensuring that the next steps recommended at any OFSTED Inspection are successfully implemented and monitored
- Governor training – ensuring all governors are sufficiently well trained to carry out their duties.

Recent Governor actions

The Governors supported the Headteacher and school staff through an OFSTED inspection in June 2023, achieving GOOD in all areas.

The Governors supported the Headteacher and school staff through a SIAMS (Standard Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection in July 2022, achieving GOOD in all areas.

An area identified for development was to embed a greater understanding of why certain curriculum schemes were followed and how these were adapted to the children at Offley Endowed. As a result Governors have supported the Headteacher in purchasing a number of new learning schemes in PSHCE, Music and English and discuss regularly at the Teaching and Learning Committee meetings.

The governors had a particular focus on the spending of pupil premium and sports premium money. We worked with the members of staff responsible to check that this money was spent effectively, and in a way that narrows the gap between disadvantaged pupils and others, aiming to raise attainment for all. To evidence and monitor the effectiveness of these choices, data reports are also presented at Governor meetings broken down for each of the key demographics.

Agreed the funding of projects for the infrastructure of the school to accommodate the increase in the number of children in recent years. This has included changes to the classroom layouts, and to the school hall.

Approved spending to improve IT across the school, including

- improving the wi-fi in all areas of the school,
- providing new laptops for the children,
- providing new ipads for the children,
- providing new teacher laptops
- providing five new interactive whiteboards across all Key Stages
- providing air conditioning units across Key Stage two

The School had a new double classroom extension built in Summer 2021. The governors supported the head teacher in planning for the new extension, and co-ordinated the provision of money from a number of different sources to pay for this. A similar process was followed when building a new Key Stage one classroom, with resource breakout room and disabled bathroom facilities, in the summer of 2023.

In the last few years, the Governors have supported the head teacher in the introduction of a thriving nursery class, a breakfast club and the Jesters after-school club. In each case Governors discussed whether this was an appropriate development and then worked with the head teacher to bring to fruition.

Governors have also supported an amendment to the admission arrangements for Offley Endowed to incorporate residents of Hexton on the priority list following the closure of Hexton Primary School in September 2024.

Governors have attended school council meetings, observed lessons and pupil voice focus groups, together with attending school fundraisers to support the school Community.

What next

- Continue to support and develop the head teacher in his role, ensuring that leadership of the school continues to be outstanding.
- Further develop and support teachers so that they can continue to provide outstanding teaching. Identifying any barriers to learning to ensure high quality teaching and learning is accessible to all children
- To continue to operate as a “critical friend” to the school to ensure standards at Offley Endowed continue to improve
- To continuously review the school website and develop the platform further following the re-design.
- Further development of the outside play areas are currently under consideration, with the governor’s role to challenge and analyse what further projects would be appropriate to accommodate growing numbers whilst maintaining the village school environment
- To regularly appraise the need to replace equipment and fabric of aging buildings.
- To continually appraise the school development plan and ensure it is reflective in providing outstanding education to the pupils attending Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery

Next Review – September 2028