



Annual Governance Statement 2024-5



The Core Functions of the Governing Body

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Standish Lower Ground St. Anne's Governing Body are:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of St. Anne's School is currently made up of eight members:

Headteacher

1 Staff Governor

1 LEA appointed Governor

2 Parent Governors

2 Foundation Governors (church appointments there can be a maximum of 7)

The Governing Body works together as one team, with no separate committees, allowing all members to have a full overview of the school's strategic and operational position. The Governing Body meet formally twice every term, and monitoring visits will be carried out by individual Governors throughout the year.

The members of the Governing Body have a wide range of skills and knowledge and each individual brings their own attributes and qualities to the team, ensuring an active contribution to the school's effective governance. Governors undertake regular training throughout the year, ensuring their knowledge remains current and relevant, and an annual skills audit identifies any skills gaps or training requirements.

Governor attendance

A record is kept by the Clerk to the Governing Body of governors attendance at meetings. Details of attendance can be found on the Meet the Governors page. Meetings need to be quorate to ensure that decisions can be made (quorum is half of the number of Governors in post).

How the Governing Body works with the school

The School Improvement Plan provides a key focus point for the Governing Body in fulfilling its functions, setting out the priorities and aims for the school to ensure the children have the opportunity to achieve the very best that they can.

Each Governor is allocated a specific school focus, according to their individual skills and strengths, and they work closely with staff to monitor progress in this area. They use this information to ensure all our children make the best progress and achieve as highly as possible, and that resources are planned effectively. They also use this to support the school's self-evaluation judgements, benchmarked against the Ofsted inspection evaluation schedule.



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The governors key monitoring and evaluation findings are reported back to the whole governing body. These findings influence the decisions made, to ensure that the children continue to access outstanding provision, teaching, learning and are kept safe and well looked after. Governors seek the views of parents, carers and children at three points during the year, based on the parent view questions.

The work we have done as a Governing Body during 2024-25:

Throughout the year the governing body has fulfilled its statutory duties in terms of monitoring the school's work and offering support and challenge. Key areas covered this year include:

Planned and approved the leadership direction and Senior Leadership Team structure, securing the future strategic vision for the school.

Approved staffing plans, ensuring the continued provision of a safe, caring and nurturing environment where children can thrive.

Agreed building improvement plans, ensuring the school environment remains safe, secure and fit for purpose now and in the future and monitored health and safety issues.

Monitored pupil progress, attainment and behaviour, ensuring consistent standards are delivered throughout school to allow best possible outcomes for all children. Challenged outcomes and approved new teaching initiatives.

Reviewed Pupil Premium expenditure, monitoring the attainment of recipients to make sure that appropriate support is provided, allowing all pupils to reach their full potential.

Monitored Sports Premium expenditure, ensuring all children have access to an enriched and varied sports provision.

Monitored the use of finances for the school and overseen the budget and accounting.

The support of our head teacher Mr Ivory.

The work of the Governing Body is recorded in approved minutes which are available to view on request.

Our Strategic Objectives for 2025-26

Continue to monitor and evaluate school improvement priorities, ensuring the continued pursuit of excellence across all activities.

Regularly evaluate and assess the Governing Body structure and operational methods, to ensure statutory obligations and strategic functions are met.

The priorities established by the Head for the year are:

- To improve outcomes across school so that all outcomes are at least in line and above national outcomes

- To improve teaching and learning across school through the use of appropriate strategies and interventions with a particular focus on reading



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- To develop and implement and a whole-school approach to mental health and well-being that ensures all pupils have the knowledge, skills and support to manage their emotions and seek help when needed
- To continue to use the 'graduated approach' (a continuous cycle of 'assess, plan, do and review) which helps to ensure that pupils receive and appropriate level of support and meet pupils' needs
- To ensure all leaders and governors in school understand school improvement priorities and are able to drive school improvement

Our responsibilities are to oversee and monitor the implementation of these priorities.

Rev. Andrew Brown – Chair of Governors