

**Annual Governance Statement  
for Eltham Church of England Primary School  
Governing Body  
Autumn 2023**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the Governing Body are:

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**
- 2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent**

**Governance arrangements**

The Eltham Church of England Primary School Governing Body is made up of:

Two parent governors  
One local authority governor  
Headteacher  
One staff governor  
Parish Priest  
Six foundation governors selected by the PCC of St John's Eltham  
Three foundation governors selected by the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education  
One co-opted governor selected for their skills and expertise in particular fields

To contribute to effective governance and the success of the school, Governors are expected to:

- Enhance the work of the governing body to enable a strong focus on raising standards, so that every child achieves their potential
- Understand the school and its performance through
  - reviewing data,
  - monitoring impact of teaching on pupil outcomes,
  - understanding the financial status of the school and the best use of its funds
  - understanding the challenges and National landscape that the school faces internally and externally.
- Take personal responsibility for their ongoing training and development including safeguarding in line with KCSIE
- Attend meetings (governing body/working groups) and play an active part
- Prepare for meetings so they are well informed, having read all of the papers sent out with the agenda
- Recognise the corporate status of the governing body and the concept of collective responsibility
- Respect confidentiality and the need to act with circumspection. Governors are required to sign up to the Governors Code of Conduct each year.

The governing body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year with each Governor having a specific area of responsibility. Minutes of these meetings are available to be viewed in School.

**Attendance record of governors**

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body of governor's attendance at meetings, and published on the school's website. Governor's attendance at meetings is excellent.

## **The work we have done in the governing body meetings**

The work we have done in all meetings revolves around the school improvement plan. Our priorities for the academic year 2023/24 are :

- To work closely and effectively with the Headteacher and all staff to ensure that teaching and learning is a strength and that pupils make good progress and achievement including vulnerable groups including through link on specific subjects.
- To become actively involved in the life of the school; visiting the classes to monitor teaching and learning of specific subjects and the delivery of the curriculum
- To ensure that the school remain financially sustainable.
- To ensure that the school is meeting Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Child Protection, Educational Visits and Premises procedures and requirements.

We have done this by :-

- Ensuring the Headteacher has a robust appraisal and accountability schedule
- Supporting the school through link governor working with subject leaders on monitoring of quality of provision, the progress and attainment of all pupils and asking for evidence, including book examinations, monitoring reports, discussions with children and learning walks.
- Examining and challenging internal and external performance and progress data.
- Robust challenge and monitoring of staffing and financial management of the school
- Ensuring the judgement of the staff and Head teacher are in line with local and national standards through external validation.
- Ensuring the individual needs of pupils are met, through interventions, by the scrutiny of data and regular visits by Governors now these can recommence.
- Ensuring that all safeguarding and child protection systems are robust, effective and well communicated

In addition we have undertaken our statutory duties with regard to:

- Performance management of the Headteacher
- Reviewing and updating statutory policies
- Monitoring the effectiveness of pupil premium and sports funding

Governors have undertaken a variety of training at the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education, as well as Royal Borough of Greenwich on; Analysing School Performance, Ofsted inspection framework, being a governor of a Faith school, safeguarding this includes an awarding of the Bishop's Certificate from the Diocese.

The minutes of the Governing body are public documents which are available to view on request at the school office. They can only be published once they have been agreed as a 'true record' of the meeting at the next Governors meeting.

## **Strategic Planning for the future**

Our aims for the forthcoming year:

1. To be actively involved in the delivery of teaching and learning, giving insight into how individual subjects are action planned and delivered, thus hold the Headteacher and SLT to account for teaching and learning standards
2. To maintain the school's OFSTED rating of Good judgement with particular focus on the changes in inspection framework and recommendations in the report
3. To ensure that the school is in a financially stable position with regard to the increasing funding demands

The Governing body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/careers, so please get in touch via either school office.

## How to contact your governing body

Information about the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website or please ask any member of staff or at either school office.

### **The Federated Governing Body – membership 2023/24**

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Committee (2023/24)</b>	<b>Term of office expiry date</b>
Rupert Osborn (Chair)	Co-opted	Finance/Premises Admission	September 2026
Irina Jarrett-Thorpe (Vice-chair)	Parent	Personnel Curriculum	October 2026
Caroline Risdon	ex officio	Faith Group (Chair)	While in office
Matthew Wills	Headteacher	All committees	While in office
Hannah Feeney	Staff		September 2027
Daniel Bull	Parent	Curriculum Faith Group	June 2025
Peter Foy	Local Authority	Personnel (Chair) Faith	July 2024
Catherine Rees	SDBE		September 2027
Celia Niven	SDBE		September 2027
Elaine Williams De Cernuto	SDBE	Curriculum	September 2026
Alberta Rosenior	PCC	Curriculum (Chair) Faith Group	September 2025
Colin MacKenzie	PCC	Finance/Premises Admission	September 2025
Patricia Gooding	PCC	Finance/Premises Curriculum and Faith group	October 2025
Glory Owen	PCC	Finance/Premises (Chair) Admission	September 2025
Adam Kennedy	PCC	Finance Curriculum	September 2025

**Declarations of interests:** are recorded on the school website and declared at each meeting