

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Southrop C of E Primary School
October 2025**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the four core strategic functions of the Southrop C of E Primary School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the co-headteachers to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
4. Ensuring the voices of stakeholders are heard

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Southrop C of E Primary School is made up of 9 Governors in total:

2 x elected Parent Governors
1 x Local Authority
1 x elected Staff Governor
1 x Head Teacher
2 x Foundation Governors (1 vacancy)
2 x Co-opted Governors

During the 2024/2025 year the Governing Board lost a member when our foundation governor successfully completed his curate placement and moved to his own church parish as priest-in-charge. We continue with the vacancy into the 2025/2026 academic year and are actively looking for someone to fill this space.

The Full Governing Body meets at least 6 times each year. If Governors are unable to attend a meeting, they are required to give their apologies with reasons, and the Governing Body decides whether to accept those apologies.

The Governing Body elects its own Chair and Vice Chair.

We have three standing committees: The Pay Committee, the Ethos Committee, and the Head Teacher's Appraisal Special Committee (panel). There are also several special Committees (panels) which form and meet on an as-needed basis: Suspensions and exclusions, staff disciplinary hearings (including dismissal and appeal), grievances, headteacher recruitment, and complaints.

The work that we have done in the last year (academic year 24/25).	Activity during the preceding 12 months has included: • Appointed a new Chair and Vice Chair • Governor training: Safeguarding (L1, L2, strategic, prevent, neglect), role of the governors, curriculum, insights data, new & inspiring chairs, single central record, SEND, pupil premium & looked after children, and finance. • Aligned governor link roles to the School Development Plan (SDP) • Created a Governor Strategy aligned to the SDP • Reviewed and updated governor documents including the Instrument of Governance (IoG) • Reviewed school policies as required by the review schedule • Supported and engaged with school improvement actions including attendance at Special Project Group (SPG) meetings with Gloucestershire Improvement group (GLOSSI) • Reviewed and updated the school website governance section • Continued to investigate the strategic direction for the school • Continued to embed the new school vision and values into governance, and when reviewing school policies • Resolved to set up a Parent Council to improve collaboration across the school community, provide a forum for the parent body to raise and resolve issues and opportunities directly with the governing body, and promote succession opportunities to bring new members into the governing body • Reviewed the head teacher's performance and development action plan • Undertook learning walks to investigate the implementation and effectiveness of aspects linked to governor roles: See how a specific aspect of the school works in practice, check progress is being made towards the school's strategic objectives, and ask about and witness whether the things people say are happening are happening We have continued to support and monitor the school's efforts to ensure that all pupils receive high quality education and that they achieve to the best of their ability in line with the school vision. In addition to the above actions we have continued to do this through: - Critical questioning and examination of progress data. - One-to-one meetings with year group leads and their appointed Governor to review progress data termly. - Learning walks by Governor's and meetings with subject leads to review subject action plans, as well as for SEND and Wellbeing and providing feedback.
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Future Plans	We will implement the Parent Council and We will continue to support and monitor the school's efforts to ensure that all pupils receive high quality education and that they achieve to the best of their ability. We will continue to engage with the Special Project Group to monitor and participate in school improvement. Our monitoring will focus on areas identified by Ofsted for improvement and scrutiny of data for different pupil groups including those of SEND students and free school meals to ensure that all students are able to participate fully and encouraged to strive to be the best they can be in line with the school vision and achieve their potential. We will use Insight data to assist in monitoring pupil progress. We will support the pending SIAMs inspection and response to this. We will support the pending Ofsted re-inspection and response to this. We will continue to develop and improve the skills of the Governing Body collectively, and individually, through experience and training. We will continue to put the pupils first in all our activities and decisions.
Contact	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents - please contact the Chair of Governors (chair@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk), or one of the other Governors using their details as shown in "Governors Details".