



BUCKHURST HILL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26

Our Vision

Our vision at Buckhurst Hill Primary School is that every child in our school:

- Loves learning, achieves their very best, has fun at school and feels excited about the future;
- Knows how to make friends and get along well with people; to treat them with fairness, compassion & respect;
- Grows healthy & strong, believes in themselves and has the confidence and resilience to follow their dreams;
- Feels part of their community, proud of their school and inspired to make a positive difference in the world

School Values

At Buckhurst Hill Primary School, we have four core values. They are:

Aspiration, Innovation, Equality and Generosity

Governors' Role

The Local Governing Committee is key to Buckhurst Hill Primary School. It supports and challenges the Headteacher to continually improve the school and provide the best education for every child. This Annual Governance Statement is one way in which the Local Governing Committee communicates its work and the impact we have had on school improvement to our stakeholders.

The minimum functions typically delegated to a Trust's local tier of governance are the four 'Ss': Safeguarding, SEND, Standards and Stakeholder engagement. Our Local Governing Committee also has the following core functions:

Upholds the Trust's strategic direction by:

- carrying forward the Trust's vision, ethos, values and principles in ways that are appropriate to the school's status, pupils, staff and community
- governing the school in line with the Scheme of Delegation, Terms of Reference, Governance Planner and other guidance agreed by the Board of Trustees
- agreeing the school improvement strategy with priorities and targets
- meeting statutory duties

Ensures accountability by:

- holding to account the school leadership for the academic performance of the school, the quality of provision and the quality of care of the children



- recommending the appointment of the Headteacher to the Board of Trustees
- monitoring progress towards agreed targets
- performance managing the Headteacher
- engaging with stakeholders (including parents and pupils)
- contributing to school self-evaluation

The Local Governing Committee Structure

The Local Governing Committee is made up of a group of volunteers who bring a range of skills and expertise and come from a variety of backgrounds. Governors are committed to improving the education of every child in our school and invest a huge amount of good will, hard work and time.

Buckhurst Hill Primary School Local Governing Committee had vacancies for three Trust Governors and two Parent Governors in the 2024/2025 academic year, with eleven positions filled as per the following structure –

- 2 Parent Governors appointed by ballot of the parents at the school
- 1 Staff Governor appointed by ballot of the staff
- 1 Headteacher
- 7 Trust Governors appointed by the Trust based on a skills audit, wherever possible

The Local Governing Committee appoints a professional clerk who is responsible for arranging meetings, taking minutes and following up on all actions. The clerk also advises on procedural matters and plays a key and crucial role in the work of the Local Governing Committee.

Five new governors joined the Local Governing Committee during 2024/2025, filling Trust Governor and Parent Governor vacancies. The chair and vice chair are elected by the Local Governing Committee, and approved by the Trust, on an annual basis and work closely with the Headteacher and the clerk. At the start of 2024-2025, a new Chair was appointed and a new Vice-Chair was appointed in January 2025.

Attendance at meetings for each Governor is monitored and recorded. Governors are notified of meeting dates for the following year at the end of the summer term.

Training

To effectively fulfil its role, the Local Governing Committee ensures that all its governors have the required skills and knowledge to support the achievement of the school's priority objectives.

All new members of the Local Governing Committee must attend an Induction training session. Mandatory training such as Safeguarding and PREVENT were carried out at the beginning of the academic year for all Governors.

Through the Trust, all governors now have access to online training via NGA and LGfL. The Trust also sets up a mixture of online and in person courses/ training sessions throughout the year to further the knowledge and understanding of governors.



The impact of this is that the Local Governing Committee has kept up to date regarding the latest requirements and expectations from the Department for Education. This enables governors to better understand and challenge the information and data presented to them.

Impact of Local Governing Committee Meetings

The Full Local Governing Committee met six times over the 2025/2026 academic year to read, review and agree school policies and monitor progress against the School Development Plan (SDP) which identifies the key areas on which the School and the Local Governing Committee wish to focus during the academic year. The SDP includes measures and milestones that the Local Governing Committee uses to satisfy itself that progress is being made against objectives and that all actions being taken are improving teaching and learning outcomes for all children.

Over 2025 – 2026 every meeting was quorate and overall attendance and commitment by governors remains high.

The Local Governing Committee continued at each meeting and during monitoring visits, to question the school on its decisions and actions. This was to ensure that the school's standards and expectations remained high and that pupils from all backgrounds and abilities were supported. Information from data, Headteacher reports, and monitoring visits enabled the Local Governing Committee to scrutinise pupil progress across all areas including vulnerable groups.

The areas of focus for 2024/2025 were:

- Quality of Education
- Behaviour & Attitudes
- Personal Development
- Leadership & Management
- Early Years Provision
- SEND

The school budget was scrutinised and reviewed in detail by our Finance Governor and School Business Manager with the Chief Finance Officer of the Trust. At Local Governing Committee meetings, using benchmarking information, governors compare the school's spending with Trust schools and ensure resources are being used in the most effective ways to support the best education outcomes for all children.

In December 2024, the School was visited by Ofsted as part of their inspection process and judged it Good for overall effectiveness, maintaining its previous rating. The school had a positive Inclusion Review visit by the Local Authority in the Autumn Term.

A full copy of the Ofsted inspection report is available on the school website. Following the Inspection, the school has worked with the Trust and Governors to address the curricular and strategic oversight issues that were raised.

Monitoring Focus Areas in 2025/2026

The Local Governing Committee has a schedule for all governor monitoring visits. This schedule is reviewed termly to ensure as many as possible are completed. Some of the



monitoring visits are completed by the Governors on behalf of the Trust. These are for Safeguarding, SEND and H&S. Some visits were combined during the Summer Term - with a strategic aim to cover the areas outlined in the table below:

SDP Priority	Gov Focus	Structure	When
#Consistent and impactful T & L	How the new policy ensures consistency of practice and meaningful feedback?	Learning walk with Writing subject lead	Summer 1
#2 Technology	How children and staff use technology to achieve strong outcomes in Reading, Writing and Maths	Learning walk with Computing subject lead .	Summer 1
# 3 Inclusion	How all learners are challenged and aspirations raised for all	Learning Walk with SENDCO	Summer 2

Governors use monitoring visits as a chance to get to know the school better, to observe and communicate with staff and to hear the pupil voice. Visits enable governors to ensure that actions agreed in the SDP are being taken forward by the school. A monitoring visit report is prepared and presented at the Local Governing Committee meeting following the visit, allowing other governors to ask questions.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the local governing committee, please contact the Chair of Governors, Andrew Packer, via the school office.