



Sladefield Infant School

Annual Governance Statement - 2024/2025 Academic Year

All schools in England have a Governing Body which is responsible for overseeing many of the strategic decisions of the school.

As defined by the Department for Education (DfE) in The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013, the core functions of the Governing Body include:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and performance management of staff
- oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure money is well spent

In exercising their functions, the Governing Body shall:

- act with integrity, objectivity and honesty and in the best interests of the school
- be open about the decisions they make and the actions they take and, in particular, be prepared to explain their decisions and actions to interested parties

Our Governing Body has a Code of Conduct which is reviewed and agreed annually. All Governors and Associate Members are obliged to abide by this code.

A key role is to act as a ‘critical friend’: to support; to challenge; to ask questions; ultimately to represent the school community. Our Governing Body is composed of volunteers who are interested in the continued progress of Sladefield Infant School and in ensuring the best possible education for the children in our school.

The Governing Body at Sladefield Infant School works in close partnership with the Head Teacher, staff and the Local Authority. Whilst the Head Teacher is, of course, responsible for the day to day running of the school, the Governors are involved with such things as staffing, curriculum, school buildings and finance. It ensures the school functions well and maintains the proper range of academic and social objectives.

Sladefield Infant School Board of Governors

Name	Type of Governor	Current term of office start	Current term of office expires
Mr Alex Tracy	Co-opted, Chair of Governors	29 th January 2022	29 th January 2026
Mr Andrew Tanner	Local Authority, Vice Chair	18 th July 2021	18 th July 2025
Mr Rob Meadows	Head Teacher	N/A	N/A
Mrs Nicola Connolly	Staff, Deputy Head Teacher	24 th January 2022	24 th January 2026
Miss Kelly Jordan	Co-opted	8 th October 2023	8 th October 2027
Mr Hanif Ur-Rehman	Co-opted	18 th January 2022	18 th January 2026
Rev Ruth Donegan-Cross	Co-opted	12 th January 2021	12 th January 2025
Mr Mohammed Ali	Parent	6 th October 2021	6 th October 2025
Mrs Kiran Ikhlq	Parent	23 rd January 2024	23 rd January 2028
Mr Chris Osborn	Clerk to Governing Body	N/A	N/A
Mrs Helen Mallard	Associate Member, School Business Manager	N/A	N/A

Committees	Governor(s)	Committees	Governor(s)
Finance & Staffing	Mr Rob Meadows Mr Andy Tanner, Chair Mr Alex Tracy, Vice Chair Miss Kelly Jordan Mrs Kiran Ikhlaq Mrs Helen Mallard (in attendance)	H/T Performance Management	Mr Hanif Ur-Rehman Mr Andy Tanner Mr Alex Tracy
		Staff Dismissal	As required
		Appeals	
		Link Training	Mrs Nicola Connolly

Governor Areas of Responsibility			
Area	Governor	Subject	Governor
Safeguarding	Mr Hanif Ur-Rehman	English	Mr Hanif Ur-Rehman
Health & Safety	Mr Andy Tanner	Maths	Miss Kelly Jordan
Financial	Mr Alex Tracy	Science	Mr Andy Tanner
Inclusion	Mrs Nicola Connolly	ICT	Mr Mohammed Ali
Pupil Premium	Miss Kelly Jordan	PE	Mrs Kiran Ikhlaq
Sports' Premium	Mrs Kiran Ikhlaq	RE & PHSE	Rev Ruth Donegan-Cross
Behaviour	Rev Ruth Donegan-Cross	Topic	Mr Alex Tracy
Attendance	Mr Mohammed Ali	EYFS	Mrs Nicola Connolly
Mental Health	Mr Hanif Ur-Rehman		

The Governing Body has appointed a professional Clerk who is responsible for arranging meetings, taking minutes, and following up on all actions. The Clerk also advises on procedural matters where necessary.

The full Governing Body meets at least once a term. The Governing Body has a sub-committee for Finance & Staffing; this committee meets at least once a term and reports back to the full Governing Body. This enables the whole Governing Body to take a broader and more informed holistic view of the school.

In addition, the Governors arrange targeted term-time visits that look at specific areas and subjects, as detailed in the table above. Specific monitoring is undertaken for the areas of Health and Safety and Safeguarding. After each visit, a formal report is prepared and presented at the next Governing Body meeting.

The Governing Body and the Finance & Staffing Committee have clear terms of reference and all Governors are required to abide by a Code of Conduct. Governors are volunteers and receive no payment for what they do although they can claim expenses.

Attendance Record of Governors

Full attendance records can be found on the school website, under Key Information, Governors section.

Governing Body Effectiveness and Impact

The work carried out by the Governors in 2023/24 Academic Year:

- Ensure that the school is maintaining progress against the School Development Plan
- Completed the Head Teacher's Performance Management review and supported the Head Teacher in ensuring progress against the targets set.
- Carried out termly visits to support the staff and children in line with their areas of responsibility.
- Supported the Senior Leadership Team with staffing issues.
- Continued to support and recognise the value of ECTs in the school.
- Supported trainee teachers in their placements.
- Closely monitored the school's safeguarding procedures to ensure that they are robust.
- Reviewed and monitored the current budget on a termly basis, and worked with the school's Head Teacher and Schools Business Manager to ensure rigorous financial controls are in place, including approving the School Financial Value Standard.
- Overseen the Health & Safety and maintenance of the school grounds and buildings.

The 2024/25 Academic Year School Development Plan targets are as follows:

Quality of Education

- To continue to deliver an Oracy programme that enhances the current curriculum offer.
- To ensure the provision for children with SEND is appropriate and effective.
- To improve handwriting standards across the school.
- To embed Mathematical processes and interventions across the school in line with the Maths Mastery programme.
- To gain the Gold Arts Mark.

Behaviour & Attitudes

- To develop strategies to enable pupils to be more independent learners.
- To continue to develop attendance procedures, leading to an increase in attendance figures.
- To gain a Bronze 'Eco-Friendly' School award.
- To develop a strategy to promote sustainability.

Personal Development

- To ensure that pupils and parents have a good understanding about what bullying is.

Leadership & Management

- To consider ways to ensure that the school is in a financially positive situation over time.
- To continue to develop pupil and staff well-being in line with the School Charter initiative.
- To continue the use of communication and language toolkits (as part of a consortium-wide project).
- To ensure cyber security is effective across the school.
- To continue to utilise practices from Pupil Book Study initiative when monitoring the effectiveness of provision.
- To ensure that a positive physical school environment is prioritised and maintained.
- To continue to develop opportunities for leaders to become more outward-facing.

EYFS

- To continue to develop the outdoor learning environment to ensure it meets the needs of the new EYFS Statutory Framework and Development Matters.
- To consider strategies to cater for large Summer Born cohort.