



**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Spixworth Infant School
July 2017**

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Spixworth Infant School 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 Governing Body of Spixworth Infant School was re-constituted in 2013 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 4 Co-opted governors.

We currently have 2 vacancies for Co-opted governors and 1 vacancy for a Local Authority governor.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body all of the Co-opted Governors are members of the local community with a variety of skills including teaching, health and safety, business management and finance.

The full Governing Body meets once each half term. Each member of the Governing Body has a particular role and responsibility and are held accountable by the other members of the Governing Body at full Governing Body meetings.

See p5 for a list of Governors.

Attendance record of governors

Governors attendance at meetings is good.

All monitoring reports are available to all governors prior to the full governing body meetings therefore, if a governor is unable to attend a meeting, they still complete a monitoring report for their area of responsibility and have the opportunity to contribute to the meetings by emailing either the head or the clerk any questions arising from the documents.

Most governors have been in at least once a half term to carry out monitoring

	<p>activities.</p> <p>If a governor has been unable to come in to school, monitoring has been completed through other means, such as email.</p> <p>See p5 for details of individual governors attendance at meetings.</p>
<p>The work that we have done in the governing body</p>	<p>The Governing Body continues to work with the Head teacher, focusing on school improvement and raising standards.</p> <p>The new school logo and uniform came into force in September 2016 and with this came the addition of new, professional front entrance images displaying our modern, colourful logo, as chosen by the children and our core values.</p> <p>Alongside our core values, the school has adopted the practice of growth mindset. Practising growth mindset theory with the children has enabled them to engage with subjects and activities some may have previously tried to avoid through concerns of "getting it wrong". Lead by the children themselves, within their learning circles, they have discussed each section of their learning policy, which offers an alternative way of thinking about the challenges they face and the choices they make. It has been hugely successful with the children and will continue to be a focus over the next academic year.</p> <p>Governors have considered the impact the 8 week maths intervention and the introduction of applications, such as Mathseeds, has had on raising the attainment in maths. Similar applications such as Pobble and Purple Mash for writing and ITC skills have also been introduced.</p> <p>Governors have also discussed key data giving the results of pupil achievement and progress, so that we can be sure that the school is on track to fulfil its ambitious targets for all pupils.</p> <p>We are also focused on our "vulnerable" children and how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on outcomes.</p> <p>We have considered how the sports premium is being spent to ensure the children are benefitting from the improved resources, expertise and involvement in inter schools sports activities.</p> <p>The Governing Body has worked with the Headteacher to improve the overall environment of the school.</p> <p>Over the Summer of 2016, two new learning spaces were created through a stud wall being erected in the library to create the new library, which with the additions of soft furnishings and wall mural is now an alluring, inspirational space for children to sit and enjoy books, and a club / interventions room which will continue to be developed over the coming years.</p> <p>The school hall has received a complete renovation with new, non-slip flooring, upvc double glazed windows and doors and redecorated throughout. With the old curtained division removed and replaced with a glazed wall and double door entrance, noise disruption to the class rooms has been reduced.</p> <p>The internal redecoration plans continued with the completion of the entrance hall and corridors, with the addition of display units to the entrance hall for children's work.</p> <p>Over the summer of 2017, we hope to continue with the premises</p>

development, seeing three of the 5 classrooms redecorated.

There have also been improvements to both the main playground and the EYFS garden with the installation of the all weather surface area and multi sports goal in the main playground completed in April 2017. The school have worked closely with Stepping Stones Nursery, including matched funding, to improve the EYFS outdoor resources and planning of this area will continue over the next academic year.

In May 2017, a new boundary fence was erected along the length of Lillian Road, with new gates, to replace the aging wire fence which was no longer meeting our high security expectations.

We had an extremely successful health and safety audit carried out in April 2017, with only one minor advisory with regards to policies which was addressed immediately. As well as this, the governing body requested a finance health check from an external advisor which resulted in our school being recommended as an example school to others.

The governing body has appointed a new head teacher for September 2017, together with three new class teachers and 2 new members of support staff. With increasing pupil numbers, class sizes are larger than ever. The addition of a 5th class teacher will enable children to be taught in smaller groups for their core subjects, coming back together as a class for their enrichment activities, forest school and PE lessons.

The Governor for Safeguarding continues to work with the Head teacher on the Safeguarding Action plan, put in place to ensure that the school continues to improve already robust safeguarding procedures. Numerous policies and procedures have been updated and training updates for all members of staff and governors has been completed.

The Governing Body approved the 2017/18 budget plan for the school: we are pleased to report that the school is in a very healthy position financially, which is evident in the increase in the numbers of staff we have been able to employ for the coming academic year

There is also adequate funding to continue to improve the school environment and continue with and add new initiatives to ensure the children are getting the best from their education at this school.

One of the roles for the governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies, and this year all school policies have been reviewed and updated and some new policies approved. Public policies can be viewed on the school website:

www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/policies/

Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – copies can be requested from the school office.

Future plans for the governors

The Governing Body complete annual self evaluations and from this devise a governing body action plan for the following year to ensure we continue to be effective.

One of our primary focuses for the forthcoming year is managing change. We will be supporting the newly appointed head teacher and the whole school team to provide the best education possible to all our children.

We will also continue to look at ways to improve communication with parents.

**How you can contact
the governing body**

Feedback is an important factor in the decisions made by the governing body. You can share any ideas or opinions you have by contacting the Chair of Governors, chairofgovs@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

A full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; and more information about what we do can be found on the Governors' page of the school website.



Governor	Role	Category	Term of office expires	Attendance
Angela Eastick	Chair of governors and finance	Co-opted governor	22 February 2020	6/6 - 100%
Kate Reeve	Vice chair and parent partnership	Parent governor	30 October 2018	5/6 - 83%
Heidi Jordan	Head teacher	Head teacher	N/A	6/6 - 100%
Juliette Kidd	Pupil Premium & SEND	Staff governor	11 September 2018	6/6 - 100%
Emma Cresswell	Curriculum	Co-opted governor	21 November 2020	4/6 - 66%
Scott Wilkinson	Data & British values	Parent governor	24 March 2019	5/6 - 83%
Alison Corfield	Leadership and Management & Safeguarding	Co-opted governor	1 February 2021	2/6 - 33% *
Jutta Wright	Clerk		N/A	6/6 - 100%

* due to starting point

Register of Business Interests

Governor	Business Interest
Alison Corfield	Norfolk Music Hub (Musical opportunities for pupils) Norfolk Music Service (Music tuition)