



Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Spixworth Infant School July 2018

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 6 Co-opted governors.

We currently have 3 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 aptitude 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 linked to the School Improvement and Development 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.

Monitoring reports are completed and made 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 appointed a new permanent head teacher with effect from September 2017 and has worked closely with them, focusing on school improvement and raising standards.</p> <p>The appointment of three new class teachers and 2 new members of support staff enabled us to offer a unique opportunity for year groups to be taught in smaller groups for core subjects, coming back together into their mixed year classes for their afternoon enrichment activities, forest school and PE. The impact of these smaller classes together with qualified teacher led interventions has made a positive impact across all year groups.</p> <p>We also focused on our “vulnerable” children. We appointed a one day per week dedicated SenCo to champion these children, offering invaluable, personalised support for each child and their families. We have also closely monitored how the Pupil Premium Grant is being spent by the school and what impact this has on outcomes.</p> <p>We also consider how the sports premium is spent to ensure it is the children in our school now who benefit from the improved resources, expertise and involvement in inter schools sports activities which this funding goes towards.</p> <p>So far this year, we have used some of these funds to improve the overall environment of the school.</p> <p>The club room created last year has been transformed into a fully functional kitchen with child level work surfaces, a sink, two ovens and a hob. Cookery can now be taught to all children in small groups during the school day on top of the ever popular after school cookery club.</p> <p>An outdoor canopy was erected in our EYFS outdoor area so that free flow learning can be offered all year round, whatever the weather and this is being used to its full potential.</p> <p>A new reception desk was added to the entrance foyer, creating additional meeting rooms and therefore making best use of our available office space. It also provides a more welcoming, visible reception for our visitors as well as improving safety.</p> <p>Blinds have been added to the school hall to enable a cooler environment for our PE lessons, assemblies, cafes and other hall based events.</p> <p>There have also been improvements to the main playing field with the development of the forest school areas to include a Poly Tunnel and fruit orchard. Additional outdoor resources have been purchased, such as an outdoor role play kitchen, sandpit, balance bikes, and sporting equipment for the development of active play at lunch times. Combined with the introduction of the daily mile we are ensuring that all children partake in some form of physical activity every day, which is proven to benefit learning.</p> <p>Internal redecoration has been a focus over the last few years, however over the summer of 2018, external redecoration will be taking place.</p>

We are also hoping over the summer to continue our improvements to the security of the school by replacing the wire gate on the main playground which no longer meets our high security expectations.

As well as our core values, the school has continued the practice of growth mindset and extended this with the introduction of child whispering and regular philosophy lessons, where children get to explore alternative ways of thinking about challenges they may face and the choices they make. It continues to be hugely successful with the children and with the whole school adopting neurodiversity, all children have been able to take part.

With the successful 8 week maths intervention last year, the school have continued to deliver the curriculum with these intensive foci. One around spelling and another around outside learning, with a particular focus on English and maths.

The opportunity for all children to continue their learning at home was also extended with the introduction of reading eggs and cafe espresso, complementing the already popular Mathseeds and Purple Mash. The children who have accessed these additional learning apps have enjoyed receiving their certificates in the weekly achievement assembly and it is pleasing to see the improvement in their in school work as a result.

Governors regularly discuss 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.

We had an Ofsted inspection in March which saw us secure our good school status and we are extremely proud of the outcome of the inspection with the observations of the inspector closely matching our own self evaluations. Recommendations made by the inspector, to formalise practices and procedures already in place, were adopted immediately and other development points were either already in the early stages of being addressed or were already built into our longer term improvement plans.

The Governor for Safeguarding continues to work with the Head teacher to ensure that the school continues to improve already robust safeguarding procedures.

All policies and procedures have been updated throughout the year, with a number of new statutory and non-statutory policies added. All Public policies can be viewed on the school website:

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

A full training plan for all members of staff and governors has been completed with a new training and development plan already drafted for the coming year.

The Governing Body approved the 2018/19 budget plan for the school: As with all schools, decreasing government funding and increased statutory requirements has made forecasting for the coming and future years more challenging however, we are satisfied that the budget supports our long term development plans and that the children will be getting the best from their education at this school.

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

Future plans for the governors	<p>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.</p> <p>This forthcoming year will primarily be about raising the profile of the governing body, as well as succession planning. Many of our families know who we are but know little about the critical role Governors have at the school. As always, we will continue to look at ways to improve communication with our families as feedback is an important factor in the decision made by the governing body.</p>
How you can contact the governing body	<p>You can share any ideas or opinions you have by contacting the Chair of Governors, chairofgovs@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk</p> <p>A calendar of parent forums will be issued in September whereby we invite our families to come in and discuss with us particular topics so that you have an input into the decisions being made about your school.</p> <p>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.</p>



Governor	Role	Category	Term of office expires	Business Interests	Attendance
Angela Eastick	Chair of governors Finance Leadership, management & staff development	Co-opted governor	22 February 2020		6/6 - 100%
Matthew Ward	Vice chair Outcomes, attainment, progression & aspirations Premises, health & safety	Parent governor	3 October 2021	Family member works within the Spixworth & Sprowston Cluster	5/6 - due to start date
Heidi Jordan	Head teacher	Head teacher	N/A		6/6 - 100%
Juliette Kidd	Pupil Premium, SEND & LAC Foundation subject link governor	Staff governor	11 September 2018		4/6
Scott Wilkinson	Values & aims Parents, partnerships & community	Parent governor	24 March 2019		4/6
Neil Campbell	Safeguarding/Safer Recruitment Attendance GDPR EYFS link governor	Co-opted governor	25 September 2021	School improvement officer with Local Authority. Governor at another school within the county.	6/6 - 100%
Kerry Goodhew	Curriculum Core subjects link governor	Co-opted governor	25 September 2021		3/6
Jutta Wright	Clerk		N/A		5/6 - 100%

