



Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Spixworth Infant School July 2019

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 4 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 Plan 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>Having come to the end of the three year school improvement and development plan, which had been in place since September 2015, a new one year improvement plan was developed and has been used over the year to focus on key areas of improvement.</p> <p>One development area has been to raise the profile of the governing body. As we are always looking at ways to improve communication with our families, the governor's half termly newsletters this academic year have been developed to provide more in depth information on the critical role Governors have at the school. We have continued to hold our termly parent forums, and Governors, where possible, have attended many of the school events, including open afternoon, parent teacher meetings, open evening and sports days. We feel we are giving all parents and carers the opportunity to discuss different aspects of school improvement with us.</p> <p>We have trialled an online parent survey in an attempt to improve the amount of feedback we receive as this is an important factor in the decisions made by the governing body.</p> <p>All governors have undertaken some training in key areas of governance, with most completing training to effectively improve in school monitoring. This has seen an improvement in the level of challenge school leaders have received, whilst continuing to support the school on its journey to outstanding.</p> <p>We also continue to focus on our “vulnerable” children. This year saw the introduction of Willow Room, offering groups of children the opportunity to have a more bespoke environment for their learning needs. As well as the Chair visiting the room in person, the SenCo presented a report to the governing body which highlighted the positive impact Willow Room has had both on the learning progress of the children accessing Willow Room and the school as a whole.</p> <p>The operation of Willow room has partially been funded from additional SEN funding the school receives. Without this funding, we would not be able to deliver this unique opportunity to our children. The Governing body therefore always evaluates the spend of school funds and in particular the additional funding and grants received to ensure it is used to achieve the greatest learning opportunities and outcomes for our children</p> <p>So far this year, we have used some of these funds, along with a successful National Lottery bid, to make the following improvements to our school:</p> <p>The school playground has been resurfaced and a ramped access installed to allow better access for any children or visitors with a physical disability.</p> <p>Two Activeall pods have also been installed in the outdoor learning environment as well as the purchase of new outdoor learning resources and PE equipment. This has enabled us to expand the variety of physical activity our children are able to access on a daily basis.</p> <p>Daily physical activity has been proven to have a positive impact on learning and so, on top of the daily mile, we have also this year been able to offer a</p>

	<p>heavily subsidised early morning sports club to our children, funded mainly by the PE & Sports Premium.</p> <p>The safety and security of our children is a priority and, with a lot of learning taking place outside of the classroom, a new, higher gate and fencing was installed to the main playing ground.</p> <p>Internal redecoration has also continued with the children's' toilet blocks having sanitary ware replaced and hand dryers installed. We are hopeful that the flooring and redecoration of the toilet blocks will be able to take place in the next financial year.</p> <p>Blinds have been added to one of the classrooms to enable a cooler environment for the children to learn in.</p> <p>The school has continued to deliver the curriculum with an intensive 8 week foci approach used to develop identified areas. One 8 week project this year was in relation to the use of Tapestry, including teacher assessment and the use of the programme to share your child's learning journal to support home learning.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Governor for Safeguarding continues to work with the Head teacher to ensure that the school continues to improve already robust safeguarding procedures.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/policies/</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Governing Body approved the 2019/20 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.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents – copies can be requested from the school office.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<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>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<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>



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	Business Interests	Attendance
Angela Eastick	Chair of governors Finance Effectiveness of leadership and management Staff and whole school development and training	Co-opted governor	22 February 2020		6/6 - 100%
Matthew Ward	Vice chair Outcomes Quality of teaching, learning and assessment Curriculum link governor	Parent governor	3 October 2021	Family member works within the Spixworth & Sprowston Cluster	6/6 - 100%
Heidi Jordan	Head teacher	Head teacher	N/A		6/6 - 100%
Neil Campbell	Safeguarding/Safer Recruitment inc attendance GDPR EYFS link governor	Co-opted governor	25 September 2021	School improvement officer with a local academy trust.	2/6 - 33%
Lily Engall	SEN/LAC/Child protection Personal development, behaviour and welfare PE & Sports	Staff governor	1 October 2022		6/6 - 100%
Julia Whiting	Partnerships, governors, parents and the community Premises development, health safety	Parent governor	29 November 2022		4/6 - due to start date
Fiona Ridgewell	Clerk		N/A		6/6 - 100%