GATEWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL
Inspiring Curious Minds

GOVERNORS' COMMUNITY UPDATE

5th November 2026 - Following the Full Governing Board meeting on 12 October 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of our School Community,

Following our first Full Governing Board meeting of the academic year, I wanted to share some of the key developments at Gateway, what governors have been discussing and the areas we will be focusing on over the coming months.

Our priorities for the year ahead

- Governors approved the School Development Plan for 2026–27; its four priorities are:
  - strengthening our bespoke SEND provision
  - improving maths outcomes
  - consistently good teaching and assessment
  - developing staff and succession planning.
- We also reviewed the latest pupil attainment and attendance data, recognising the school's continued strengths in writing while exploring with school leaders the areas where further improvement is possible, particularly reading and maths, including differences in outcomes between pupil groups. In line with our approved annual Governor Monitoring Schedule, we will continue to scrutinise progress and assess the impact of improvement actions throughout the year.

Strengthening inclusion and support for children

- We were pleased to hear about the appointment of a specialist SEND teacher and the development of The Hangar, the school's enhanced SEND provision. This is being introduced gradually to ensure the right support for children.
- The Governing Board approved the SEND Information report to parents which is available on the school website.
- Governors also discussed additional pastoral and "Ready to Learn" support, and how the school is helping children to build resilience, confidence and positive learning behaviours. We will continue to listen to pupil and parent feedback and assess the impact of these changes.



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Enriching children's experiences

- Children have already enjoyed a wonderful range of opportunities, including visits to Coleshill and Westonbirt Arboretum, and Year 6 residential and sporting activities such as girls' football.
- The school has reviewed participation to help ensure opportunities reach children who might otherwise miss out, with new activities including a Pupil Premium "Taskmaster" Club. Governors thanked staff for the care, energy and commitment behind these experiences.

A sound financial position and investment in our school

- Governors received assurance that the school's budget this year is balanced and its overall financial position remains sound, despite pressures facing the education sector.
- This careful stewardship is helping Gateway invest in children and colleagues, including improved SEND and pastoral spaces, building maintenance and a refurbished staffroom to support staff wellbeing. We will keep monitoring pupil numbers, funding and future financial pressures.

Safeguarding, wellbeing and attendance

- Safeguarding and children's wellbeing remain central to our work.
- Governors reviewed staff safeguarding training, monitoring activity and the school's response to incidents, including the learning taken forward.
- We also examined attendance, particularly for children facing additional barriers to attending regularly. Governors will continue to challenge and support leaders to ensure arrangements are effective and every child has the best possible opportunity to thrive.

Thank you to our school community

- A special thank you goes to the Gateway School Association (GSA), whose fantastic fundraising efforts make a real difference to our pupils, helping to fund trips, activities and additional resources that enrich their learning and experiences at school.
- We warmly welcome the new GSA Chair, Treasurer and committee members, and encourage families to get involved wherever they can. Every contribution, however big or small, makes a difference.
- It was also wonderful to hear about our newly elected House Captains and their plans to support local charities this year. It is lovely to see our pupils taking on leadership responsibilities and looking for ways to make a positive difference in their community.

RESILIENCE R EMPATHY E SELF-AWARENESS S POSITIVITY P EXCELLENCE E COMMUNICATION C TEAMWORK T

Your governing board

- We are delighted to welcome Richard Doyle as the new Parent Governor you can read more about Richard and all other governors **here.**
- We also currently have two vacancies for Co-opted Governors. These roles offer an opportunity for people from our wider community to contribute their skills, experience and perspective to the school's future. If you or someone you know may be interested, please click **here.**

Our governors regularly visit the school, review evidence, listen to children and staff, and work closely with school leaders. Our role is both to champion Gateway and to ask constructive questions about what can be improved.

Thank you to Mrs Anstee and all colleagues for their continued dedication, and to our families and wider community for the support you give Gateway. We look forward to another positive and purposeful year together.

With best wishes,

Kevin Moyes
Chair of Governors - Gateway Primary School