



Headteacher: Mrs Kayleigh Anstee

Date: 25th March 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers

The Governing Full Board met on 24th March 2025. At the meeting the minutes of our 27th January 2025 meeting were approved and are now available on the [Governor Page of the school website](#) along with lots of other useful information about governance.

Safeguarding

Governors discussed safeguarding including reviewing the statutory PREVENT (Prevent is all about keeping people and communities safe from the threat of terrorism. It is one of the four strands of the government's "CONTEST" counter-terrorism strategy; the other strands are Pursue, Protect and Prepare.) risk assessment for the school which demonstrated the proactive approach the school takes and that we have all measures in place to safeguarding our pupils in this important area, governors were confident that the school continues to have a culture of safeguarding with robust policies, procedures and processes in place. If you would like to read more about PREVENT you can access the full details of the Prevent Strategy can be found [here](#).

Quality of Education

Governors discussed our recent external School Improvement Adviser monitoring visit and Governor Monitoring (as per the Governor Monitoring Schedule) which covered a broad range of areas including inclusion, curriculum, data, and Safeguarding; all visits were extremely positive, with the SIA and Governors noting the exemplary behaviour of our pupils. It was clear that the school leadership team and colleagues continue to strive every day for the very best for our pupils and, following our Ofsted inspection, have continued to embed and deliver continuous improvements for our pupils.

Mid-Year Funding Reviews

Governors completed a mid-year review of the funding strategies for the additional funding received for Pupil Premium, Service and SEND Pupils as well as the Sports Premium. Governors could see clear evidence that the strategy and plan for these as agreed at the bringing of the academic year are being implemented effectively and they are having a positive impact on our pupils; governors were also pleased to hear that the investment in play

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equipment has gone down well with our pupils and is used well during breaktimes and contributing to our pupil's physical activity levels.

Environmental Sustainability

At our meeting the Governors discussed the need to appoint a Lead Governor for Environmental Sustainability: this is an important area for our school; we have as a school implemented some significant changes already such installing LED lighting and solar panels but as a Governing Board, we now need to put in a place a holistic long-term strategy for the school. Once a lead governor is appointed, they will set up a working group (which will include staff/volunteers, pupils and parents/carers) to create a Term of Reference for the which will include the drafting of a long-term Environmental Sustainability Strategy and plan which will be approved by the Full Governing Board.

To learn more about the Governing Board's Responsibilities you can review the [Department For Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy](#).

If parents, carers, staff or volunteers would like to join the working group then please email me by **8th April 2025**.

Budget

At our meeting governors discussed and reviewed our budget position which has improved significantly given our high pupil numbers – we are projecting that all school places will be filled in the next two years; this is a testament to our fantastic reputation in the community and our 'Good' Ofsted rating which is all down to the fantastic work of colleagues across the school in ensuring our school provides the highest possible level of education and is a truly unique place for our pupils.

Staffing

Governors discussed staffing (including the structure) across the school and agreed that the current staffing structures is working well in enabling the delivery of the School Development Plan (the annual objectives set by the Governing Board for the school leadership team for this year).

Governor Vacancies

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We have 2 co-opted Governor vacancies which we urgently need to fill-preferably we are looking for governors with experience in one or more of the following (but all applications will be considered):

- Human Resources
- Finance
- Health and Safety/Premises
- Communications
- Chairing

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It is really important that our community is represented on the Governing Board and that we have a diverse range of experiences – if you would like to know more or apply then please review the information [here](#) or email me for a chat. If it is not something you are interested in, please do help us to flag the parent vacancy to other parents and share the co-opted vacancy with your networks. It is important that we have parents on the Governing Board and have a good mix of skills, experiences, and perspectives.

We know it takes a whole community to grow a child and at Gateway we have a truly fantastic community. Governors are clear that the success of our school is a whole community effort and so thank you all for your ongoing dedication and support for our school. As a result, Gateway school is a unique and special place for our pupils and has gained a very positive reputation in our community.

Please do continue to share the school's good news with your friends, family, and networks so we can continue our amazing growth and journey together.

As always if you have any questions about governance at your school then please do reach out to me on kmoyes@gateway.oxon.sch.uk.

Best wishes,



Kevin Moyes
Chair of Governors

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