

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Board of
St Alfege with St Peter's Church of England Primary School
2025-26**



The Governing Board of St Alfege with St Peter's Church of England Primary School has a strong focus on the three core strategic functions:

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 and the performance management of staff;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

**Governance
Arrangements**

The full governing board meets once each term. There are two committees that meet on a termly basis – Learning and Achievement and Finance & Premises. The Personnel Committee meets twice a year and the Pay and Pay Appeals Committee meets annually. Full governing board meetings and all committee meetings are professionally clerked. Agendas and approved minutes are kept in the school office. Each committee has terms of reference.

Governors are also linked to areas or aspects of the school. Governors who visit the school provide a written report which is shared with the governing board.

A list of governing board members is available on the school website together with their individual responsibilities. Governors have a wide spread of knowledge and expertise and are part of the committees which utilise their skills.

Attendance at meetings is very good and an attendance grid is available on the school website (governor pages).

The governing board is committed to reviewing its effectiveness and undertakes a regular skills assessment. New governors participate in an induction programme including Safeguarding training. Governors attend training to support them in their collective and specific link roles. This year we were delighted to achieve The Bishop's Certificate which reflected the fact that the whole Governing Body has undertaken a course of Governor Training with the Southwark Diocese Board of Education.

Key issues addressed by the governing board 2024-25	The governing board has fulfilled its statutory duties in terms of monitoring all areas of the school's work and offering support and challenge through the agreed agendas of each committee and the agendas of full governing board meetings. Some of the areas covered this year: • School Development Plan – input from a variety of stakeholders and a monitoring cycle to ensure there is impact against priority areas. • Monitoring the use of Pupil Premium funding (statement available on the school website). • Monitoring the use of the Sports Premium funding (statement available on the school website) (Primary Schools only). • Reviewing the Accessibility Plan. • Review of statutory policies and ensuring there is compliance of the school website. • Monitoring of pupil progress and achievement across the school and ensuring there is a broad offer of curriculum to all students. • Rigorous budget management and assurances of 'best value'. • Governors provide challenge to the Head Teacher and the school. They consider a range of documents and data provided by the school in order to judge the impact of strategies within the school. • Governors also visit the school to meet with staff to gain a greater understanding of the school and the on-going requirement to raise standards. The school's Improvement Partner provides notes of visit which are considered at governing board meetings. The Schools Improvement Partner has also worked with Governors on the Headteacher's Appraisal. • Overview of all Safeguarding procedures (including training for staff and Governors). • Additional support for disadvantaged children and children with SEND
Assessment of Impact	The Governors' role is to support and challenge, including reviewing and agreeing the budget. This is proving more of a challenge as the amount the school is given does not match the increased outgoings that all schools are facing. However, spending is monitored stringently to ensure value for money. Governors visit the school on a regular basis, to help with reading, assist at lunchtimes, lead assemblies and observe lessons. Governors also work with the local church community and are aware of the economic crisis and the effect it has on our pupils. The school runs a foodbank with the help of a Foundation Governor. Gifts of food and donations via the church have been regular and significant. Governors continue to support the Headteacher and staff to ensure their well-being. The school continues to be a haven of learning, where every child matters and is cherished. We were delighted that the school was judged to be excelling in our most recent SIAMS inspection.. Our children are making progress in all year groups and all abilities. The school embraces children

	from all faiths and none but the ethos of the school is based on Christian values with prayer at its heart. The Headteacher and all staff are to be congratulated for their commitment and hard work in dealing with the constant demands arising from external issues. They have always put the needs of the children first. Governors give heartfelt thanks to our incredible leadership team, teachers and support staff who ensure that our pupils can be the best that they can be.
Future plans for the governing board	The governing board will continue to provide scrutiny, challenge and support for the school so that it provides the best possible outcomes for our pupils. Governors will continue to support the Headteacher and staff to ensure their well-being.
Contact Details	The governing board welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school.