



Governing Board Annual Governance Statement

Gorse Hall Primary and Nursery School

December 2025

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all Governing Boards, the three core strategic functions of the Perfect Primary School

Governing Board is:

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 Board of Gorse Hall Primary and Nursery School was re-constituted in 2014 and is now made up of the Head Teacher, one staff Governor, two elected Parent Governors, one Local Authority Governor and five Co-opted Governors. Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Board and are people who possess the skills and experience required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school, this includes finance, buildings, business and community expertise and knowledge. The full Governing Board meets once each term, and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in detail. This includes a Curriculum and Outcomes Committee; Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee; and Pay Committee. We also have committees that are only convened if required to consider other matters – for example pupil discipline or complaints. In addition to the timetabled meetings, all Governors are committed and proactively engage with the school on a regular basis as part of their role or links with the school.

Attendance Record of Governors

Governors have good attendance at meetings and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate". The Governor meeting attendance record can be found on the website.

The work carried out by the Governing Board

The Governing Board has had another busy year with the main focus being to develop our understanding of the Curriculum and its outcomes for all learners and to develop an understanding of Relational Inclusion. The Governing Board continues to work closely with the school and parents to maintain positive relationships, attend school events, undertake Governor training, provide critical and constructive challenge and support to the school leadership team. The Curriculum and Outcomes Committee has spent time considering data outcomes, the quality of the curriculum and its impact, so that we can be sure that the school continues to fulfil its ambitious targets for all pupils. They also review the progress of key groups of pupils and focus on how the Pupil Premium and Sports Premium are being spent by the school and what impact this has on their outcomes. The Finance, Premises and Personal Committee oversee the on-going maintenance and development of the school premises and supports the Headteacher and School Business Manager in making

decisions about how the school should use the budget. Governors oversee the Health and Safety standards of the school. The Health and Safety Inspection has been carried out by the Local Authority's Health and Safety Team, and this is reviewed in Jan 2026. Governors also monitor the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy and practice they are updated about any safeguarding matters. The Governing Board partake in monitoring opportunities to have a contextual understanding of school development work whilst enjoying the opportunities to secure pupil voice and find out about the Curriculum. One of the roles for the Governors is reviewing and agreeing school policies. Copies of the latest versions can be found on the school website or can be requested via the school office. Minutes of Governing Board meetings are public documents. Please ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.

Educational Performance

Gorse Hall Primary and Nursery School

END OF YEAR Results 2024-2025

EYFS

	2024 Expected +	2025 Expected+
Reading	69%	76%↑
Writing	60%	42%↓
Maths	83%	67%↓
GLD	52%	43%↓

Year One Phonics Screening- 2024 - 80% achieved the pass standard

Year One Phonics Screening- 2025 - 75%↓ achieved the pass standard

Key Stage 1 (Internal Data)

	2024 Expected+	2024 Greater depth	2025 Expected+	2025 Greater depth
Reading	53%	0%	59%	6%
Writing	48%	0%	56%	4%
Maths	57%	0%	63%	6%
Combined	50%	0%	42%	2%

Year 2 Phonics 2025 - 93% achieved the pass standard

Year 4 Multiplication Check – 2025 - 27% **Year 4 Multiplication Check – 2025 - 38%**↑

Key Stage 2

	Average score	Expected+	Higher Standard
Reading	105 National 106	74% ↓ National 75%	33% (average scaled score)
Writing		74% ↑ National 72%	4%
GPS	106 National 105	74% ↑ National 73%	33% (average scaled score)
Maths	102 National 105	72% ↓ National 74%	8% (average scaled score)
Combined		60% ↓ National 62%	4%

The focus for school development this term has been to begin to address the School Development Plan Priorities:

Quality of Education

To embed oracy and metacognitive talk through SHAPE and teacher modelling.

Behaviour and Attitudes

To implement a new behaviour policy rooted in relational inclusion and restorative practice.

Personal Development

To further develop our relational approach across school with a focus on consistency in language and practice.

Leadership and Management

To continue the development of subject leadership with a particular focus on moderation and assessment in non-core subjects.

Built within the SDP is an action plan in relation to each priority and EEF Implementation Plans structure school development work.

Future Plans for the Governors

We are committed to working with the school Leadership Team to maintain high standards, support the further development of the school Curriculum and engage and assist in the development of the School Development Plan. We offer support and robust challenge to secure the best possible outcomes for all learners. The rolling programme of school refurbishment will continue and details can be found in the Asset Management Plan on the website. The Governors are keen to meet link staff within the school to have regular communication and to find out about the developments within subjects and areas during the academic year.

How you can contact the Governing Board

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/ carers – please contact the Chairs of Governors, Mr Michael O’Dowd, via the school office. You can see the full list of Governors and their Biographies on the Governors’ page of the school website.