



Crossens Nursery School Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

Overview and Responsibilities

Our Board of Governors is wholly committed to fulfilling our school vision:

We intend for our children to be happy, caring, considerate and curious learners who are confident to attempt challenge, build resilience and feel secure within themselves.

Annually, we will publish this Governance Statement. It is a summary of our governance work for consideration by parents and carers, staff and other interested parties. The Statement explains the responsibilities of the Board and the way it meets those responsibilities. It outlines what the Board accomplished in the last academic year and its plans for the next year.

More information about the governors and what we do can be found on the Governance section of the school website.

OFSTED Judgement:

The Board was delighted that the school was judged as GOOD by OFSTED after their inspection in May 2024. This judgement has been achieved following the incredible commitment, care, hard work and dedication of the school team, with the much appreciated support of school governors and our families.

Responsibilities:

The three Core Strategic Functions of the Governing Board are:

- Ensure Clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction.
- Hold Executive Leaders to account for educational performance of the organisation and its pupils and the performance management of staff.
- Oversee the financial performance of the organisation and make sure money is well spent.

The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, Beth Brice.

The governing board also ensures that the school complies fully with statutory safeguarding procedures. All staff and governors are required to read DfE statutory

guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education”. The governing body works with the safeguarding lead in school to complete and approve the annual safeguarding audit.

2. The composition of the governing board

Name	Type of Governor
Mrs Beth Brice	Headteacher
Ms Nicola Cave	Chair / Co-Opted Governor
Mr Peter Winter	Vice Chair / Parent Governor
Ms Kim Ardron	Co-Opted Governor
Mrs Jasmine Goodwin	Parent Governor
Ms Sarah Parry (Smith)	Co-Opted Governor
Ms Vicky Copeland	Staff Governor
Mr Geoff Thornton	Finance Officer
Ms Zoe Tissington	Wigan Governor Services

The Board is currently confirming the placement of a new Local Authority Governor and will be two co-opted Governor vacancies to fulfil from September 2025.

3. Meetings of the governing board and attendance

The Full Governing Board meets four times a year. All meetings are minuted and supported by a trained professional clerk. The Board has additional committees which at different points in the year, e.g. Pay Committee.

Minutes of the full board and its two principal committees are available on request.

Governors are required to have good attendance at meetings. Apologies for non-attendance are considered and recorded. All governors are aware that poor attendance may result in removal from the board.

4. The remit of the governing board and its committees

The Headteacher completes a self-evaluation of the school each year taking into account the school’s internal monitoring, changes to the assessment of pupils and the curriculum and the most recent Ofsted report. The self-evaluation then informs our annual School Improvement Plan. The Board approves both of these documents. The Board is also required to approve the school budget and to monitor its implementation.

The Governing Board is charged with holding the Headteacher accountable for achieving the agreed objectives within the plan. It does so through its Full Governing Board meetings, its Committee meetings and its monitoring activities.

Individual governors assume monitoring responsibility for:

- Safeguarding
- Curriculum

- SEND
- Health and Safety
- Website Compliance
- EYPP
- Data
- GDPR
- Headteacher Performance Management
- Staff well-being

A full list of governors and their responsibilities can be found in the Governance section of the school website.

5. The work of the Governing board 2024/25

The day to day work and decisions of the board are recorded in the minutes of the full governing board and its committees. The Chair of Governors and the Head met regularly. Other achievements and actions include:

1. The Board continues its programme of monitoring the effectiveness of governance.
2. Governors have completed a revised Governor Skills Analysis. The Board/school will provide training and learning opportunities to meet any identified needs.
3. Information has been shared with parents and carers with regards to the role of the governors via Newsletters and attending Nursery assemblies and events, so everyone is aware of who the governors are and how they support the school.
4. Training content on GovernorHub has been purchased and accessed by all Governors to support CPD.
5. Governors challenge the school to ensure that the quality of its teaching, learning and all aspects of the school experience are not only maintained as 'Good' (OFSTED 2024) but continuously developed and improved.
6. Governors continue to actively support the monitoring and development of the Crossens Nursery School vision, designed to develop pupils beyond the curriculum.
7. The Board continue to be proactive in encouraging the development of healthy lifestyles, fitness and wellbeing amongst pupils and staff. The Chair of Governors regularly 'checks-in' with staff well-being and reports back to the Board.
8. Governors have approved the expansion of the two year old provision.

9. The Governing Board demonstrated strong support for the overall vision and strategic direction of the nursery. Members recognised the broader national developments regarding parental entitlements and acknowledged the importance of aligning the nursery's provision with these evolving expectations.
10. Discussions also reflected a clear understanding of the need for effective succession planning to ensure long term sustainability and to enable the setting to adapt confidently in line with sector-wide changes.

6. Objectives for the Governing Board 2025/26

1. Governors will support the launch of the full Curriculum
2. Governors will view and approve the expanded provision of the two year old room
3. From September, the structure of Board meetings will be amended to reduce workload, enhance question and challenge opportunities and further improve the efficiency of governing practice
4. Recruitment will take place to fill any vacancies on the Board
5. Governors will continue to carry out visits to the Nursery, providing Link Governor Reports to the Board
6. Governors will continue to complete the annual training requirements
7. Governors to support the Headteacher in all efforts to maintain high awareness and standards of site safety