

Bloxham CE Primary School



Be . Build . Become

24th March 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers,

The Full Governing Board met on 11th March 2025; at the meeting, the minutes of our meeting on 28th January 2025 were approved and are now available on the [Governors' page of the school website](#) along with useful information about governance at your school.

English Lead Presentation

- Our meeting began with an insightful presentation from Ms Staples in her English leadership role; governors heard about the new initiatives and progress made in this important area this year. Governors asked Ms Staples questions as part of their role to support and challenge the school. Governors were pleased to hear about the love of reading which has been fostered across the school and how pupil librarians are supporting to ensure that classroom libraries are engaging and stocked with a wide selection of books to appeal to all pupils. Governors also learnt how well the curriculum and teaching is adapted for our SEND pupils to ensure they can all access the curriculum. Parents and Carers can read more about our English and other curriculum subjects on the [curriculum page of the school website](#).

Welcome to Nick Westbury – New Foundation Governor



The Governing Board welcomed Nick who brings 40 years' experience as an accountant in general practice supporting small and medium sized organisations as well as high net worth individuals. Nick has been running his own practice for nearly 30 years and brings to the governor role a wide range of useful skills and experiences.

- With Nick's appointment the Governing Board is now full for the first time in some years which is great news as it means we now have the full range of skills and experiences we need to ensure governance at Bloxham C.E Primary remains robust and sustainable.

Lead Governor for Environmental Sustainability

- At our meeting the Governors appointed Melanie Christianson as the Lead Governor for Environmental Sustainability; this is an important area for our school. Melanie will now form a working group to create a Term of Reference for the group. This will include the drafting of a long-term Environmental Sustainability 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 the Clerk to the Governing Board: rmor8868@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk by 4th April 2025

Nurture Team

- Governors discussed the work of the Nurture Team in school in supporting our pupils including when they are having a difficult time; I have received several emails from parents and carers praising the work of the team and the significant difference it has made to their children. Governors would like to express thanks to the team for their hard work, care and compassion in supporting our pupils.

Headteacher Performance Management

- It was noted that the Headteacher interim performance review has now taken place with the Governor Headteacher Performance Committee and relevant documentation compiled to demonstrate this, including progress against the annual objectives set for the Headteacher by the Committee at the beginning of the school year.

Open Classrooms

- It was positive for the Governing Board to hear about the recent open classrooms which had a high parent and carer attendance. Governors who attended said there was a great atmosphere, and they received positive feedback afterwards including an appreciation of seeing all the high-quality work our pupils have been doing.

School Hall

- It was positive to hear that the new hall would be officially handed over to the school this month with an official opening taking place on 17th March 2025 – this marks an exciting milestone in the development of our school in ensuring the school environment is the very best for our pupils, staff, volunteers and community. Governors wish to extend thanks to all staff, especially Mrs Mckenna, for their hard work in ensuring the success of the project. Governors would also like to thank Parents and Carers for bearing with us during this time given some of the disruption the work caused to some of the usual school routines.

Quality of Education

- Governors discussed the quality of education across the school and the latest LA School Improvement Adviser visit as well as the recent strategy meeting with the Local Authority (which is where the Local Authority hold school leadership including the Governing Board to account for school improvement). The governors reviewed and approved the revised Self Evaluation Form (the document which summarises the schools' strengths and development areas) and the School Development Plan (which summarises the key priorities for the year). Based on governor scrutiny during the Full Governing Board meeting, monitoring, engagement with the LA School Improvement Team and wider insights, the Governing Board agreed with the Headteacher and the LA School Improvement Team that the school is 'good' across all Ofsted categories which is fantastic news and demonstrates the significant work and progress since our last Ofsted report.

Safeguarding

- Led by the Safeguarding Governor with questions to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (in attendance), the Governors reviewed:
 - The Section 175 Safeguarding Audit Action Plan
 - The Action Plan from the ESAT 2024 Safeguarding Review
 - OSCB neglect Standards for Education – assessment of school's position
 - Prevent Risk Assessment
- From the document reviews, recent governor monitoring, wider governor monitoring (which has included speaking to staff and pupils about safeguarding) and questions to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in the meeting, governors were satisfied that Safeguarding remains robust across the school and that we have a culture of safeguarding which ensures this. It was further noted that refinements have been made to enhance the reporting mechanisms in school around suspected neglect and the Designated Safeguarding Lead along with the Safeguarding Governor will complete additional monitoring around this.

SEND (Inclusion)

- Led by the Inclusion Governor, Governors discussed the SEND provision at school and relevant monitoring which demonstrates that the school is effectively supporting our SEND pupils. Governors also reviewed exclusions and suspensions as part of ongoing governing monitoring on inclusion. Governors gave their endorsement to the approach the school is following with suspensions which is always a balance between keeping children in school and safeguarding staff and other pupils. It was agreed that a Governor would now conduct a separate monitoring visit in this area to review in more detail anonymous data on suspensions to enable a deeper exploration as per the Governors' statutory duties in this area.

Thank you to all Staff and Volunteers

- The Governors continued to see positive refinements in practice across the school which has meant that we are on track to achieve the targets in our school development plan and to ensure that our school is providing a nurturing, caring and high quality educational environment for all our pupils; none of the fantastic progress we have made would be possible without our fantastic staff and volunteers who all make Bloxham C.E Primary School the very special place it is; so governors would like to say a massive thank you to all staff and volunteers for their continued and unwavering commitment and dedication to our pupils and all the incredible hard work!

Close

- We know that it takes a whole community to raise a child and so your continued support and engagement is key to achieving success for the children. As the school community, we all have a common goal *to ensure our school is the very best it can be, that our children are happy, love school, thrive and leave our school as well-rounded individuals ready to face the challenges ahead.* As such we are all role models for the children because every day through our actions and behaviours we must live up to our [school values](#).

If you would like to know more about governance at your school or would like to contact me, please email me on: chair@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Best wishes,



Kevin Moyes
Chair of Governors