



St David's C of E Primary School Governance Report 2025/26

St David's Vision: Be kind. Be strong. Believe – we can all achieve

“Let your light shine, so that others will see the good you do.....” (Matthew 5:16)

St David's School is one of 25 schools within the Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust (the Trust). The Local Governing Board (LGB) is a link between the school and the Trust ensuring that local voice is heard in Trust-wide understanding and decision making.

The Trust vision is to enable all to flourish. Local governors play a vital role in realising this vision. In addition, they have been encouraged this academic year to see the new St David's vision, 'Be kind. Be strong. Believe – we can all achieve', becoming embedded and lived out by the whole school family.

Local governors have continued to work closely with school leaders to monitor progress, support continuous improvement and ensure that the curriculum is ambitious, enriching for all learners, with a clear focus on educational excellence. This was endorsed by a very positive Ofsted inspection report and the feedback from the inspectors was most encouraging. Governors were also extremely pleased to see that comments from over 90% of parents/carers who took part in Parent View, were very positive.

Another event in school life this year was the resignation of our Headteacher, Jenny Walker. She guided the school safely through the unknowns of Covid, enhanced the Christian ethos and restored pride in being in the St David's family. She will be greatly missed; we wish her many blessings in her new school in Oxfordshire.

The appointment of a new Headteacher is the responsibility of the CEO of the Trust, but governors were included in every aspect of the recruitment process. We were very grateful to the Trust for the support of Kerry Pope, as executive interim Headteacher during the spring term and to welcome our new Headteacher, Mark Hilliam, after Easter. Our Deputy Head, Nathan Cox, will be leaving in July to take up his first headship. He too will be greatly missed; we wish him well in the future. We are pleased to have a new Deputy Head appointed for September, Mrs Anna Putt, and look forward to welcoming her.

New faces have come onto the Board this year too. A new parent governor was elected, Nick Howe. Two new foundation governors were nominated by the Parochial Church Council and appointed by the Diocese, Mark Denning and Hilary Bennett. The new Vicar Rev Gareth Griffith is an ex-officio foundation governor and another foundation governor, Yinka Adeyemo-Phillips, agreed to stay on the Board for another term. We have every expectation of having a staff governor on the Board soon.

This means there is just one vacancy on the Board going into the next year. This is an excellent position to be in as many Boards struggle to find volunteers willing to give time to support their local schools. I am most grateful to have such committed, knowledgeable people around the table and greatly appreciate their support and the support of our excellent Clerk, Jenny Allen. Governors continue to enjoy coming into school and are delighted to see that all are flourishing both socially and academically.

Yvonne Webster, Chair of Governors, 7/7/2026