Governor Impact Statement 2025/26

Willaston Church of England Primary School

At Willaston CE Primary School, the Headteacher and Governing Body work together to provide an exceptional education within a positive, nurturing and distinctly Christian environment where every member of our community is valued as an individual. We have high expectations for every child and strive to provide a safe, challenging, exciting and inspiring environment where our Christian values of **Respect, Compassion, Perseverance, Creation and Service** underpin everything we do.

Throughout the 2025/26 academic year, governors have continued to fulfil their three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, values and strategic direction.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring that resources are used effectively to provide the very best education for every child.

The following statement summarises the work undertaken by the Governing Body throughout the year and, most importantly, the impact that work has had on our pupils, staff and wider school community.

School Vision, Christian Values and Ethos

Governors work closely with the Headteacher and senior leaders to ensure that the school's Christian vision remains central to every aspect of school life. Our vision informs decision-making, curriculum development, behaviour, relationships and the pastoral care provided to every child.

During the year governors have monitored how effectively our Christian values are embedded throughout the school and how they support pupils' academic, spiritual, moral and social development.

The school's SIAMS inspection recognised that Willaston CE Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school, enabling both pupils and adults to flourish. Governors were recognised for their strong understanding of the school's vision, their visibility within the school community and the support and challenge they provide to school leaders.

Impact

- Christian values continue to shape daily life across the school.
- Pupils demonstrate kindness, respect and compassion in their relationships.

- Governors maintain a clear strategic focus while ensuring the school's Christian distinctiveness continues to flourish.

Strategic School Development

Governors have worked alongside the Headteacher to monitor the School Strategic Development Plan throughout the year.

Each priority has measurable success criteria and is reviewed regularly through Headteacher reports, governor visits and committee meetings. Governors provide both challenge and support to ensure improvement priorities remain on track and that any barriers are identified early.

Impact

- School priorities have remained sharply focused.
- Leaders have been appropriately challenged and supported.
- Continuous improvement remains central to the school's culture.

Governance and Statutory Responsibilities

Governors continue to undertake extensive professional development in areas including:

- Safeguarding
- Prevent
- Safer Recruitment
- Finance
- SEND
- School Performance Data
- Governor Leadership

Governors regularly evaluate their own effectiveness to ensure they possess the skills necessary to provide effective strategic leadership.

Impact

- Governors remain knowledgeable and well informed.
- Strategic decisions are evidence-based.
- Statutory duties continue to be fulfilled effectively.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains the Governing Body's highest priority.

Governors conduct annual safeguarding audits alongside the Headteacher and receive regular safeguarding reports throughout the year. The Safeguarding Governor undertakes monitoring visits and governors routinely ask safeguarding questions during visits and meetings.

Governors ensure that safer recruitment procedures are followed and that safeguarding training remains up to date.

Impact

- Robust safeguarding systems continue to protect all children.
- Governors have confidence that safeguarding remains embedded throughout school life.
- Pupils report feeling safe, happy and well supported.

Educational Standards and Pupil Achievement

Governors receive detailed attainment and progress reports each term and scrutinise outcomes for all groups of pupils, including disadvantaged pupils, pupils with SEND and the most able.

Governors use this information to challenge leaders where necessary and ensure appropriate interventions are implemented.

Particular congratulations go to our Year 6 pupils, who achieved excellent outcomes whilst also producing a wonderful end-of-year performance, demonstrating confidence, resilience and teamwork.

Impact

- High standards of teaching and learning continue across the school.
- Pupils achieve excellent outcomes across the curriculum.
- Governors maintain a detailed understanding of pupil achievement and school performance.

Attendance and Pupil Welfare

Excellent attendance remains a strategic priority.

Governors monitor attendance at every Full Governing Body meeting and review the effectiveness of strategies used to support families where attendance concerns arise.

We are incredibly proud that attendance at Willaston continues to be amongst the highest nationally. Governors would like to thank parents and carers for recognising the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality.

Impact

- Outstanding attendance supports excellent academic outcomes.
- Strong partnerships with families ensure children attend school regularly and punctually.
- Pupils benefit from continuity in their learning.

Monitoring the Curriculum

Governors regularly visit school to monitor curriculum development and school improvement priorities.

Monitoring visits include discussions with staff, learning walks, pupil voice activities and scrutiny of pupils' work.

Subject leaders present regularly to governors, enabling governors to understand curriculum developments and ask challenging questions regarding standards and future priorities.

Governors also enjoy attending performances, sporting events, collective worship, Forest School, educational visits and celebrations throughout the year.

Impact

- Governors possess first-hand knowledge of school life.
- School improvement priorities are effectively monitored.
- Governors provide informed strategic challenge.

Staff Wellbeing and Leadership

Governors recognise that the school's greatest strength is its staff.

Throughout the year governors have monitored staff wellbeing alongside professional development and leadership capacity.

The Governing Body would like to express its sincere thanks to Mr Graham, the leadership team, teachers, support staff and all employees for their exceptional commitment, professionalism and care.

Their dedication ensures that every child receives an outstanding education within a nurturing environment.

Impact

- High staff morale supports excellent teaching.
- Professional development strengthens leadership across the school.
- Pupils benefit from committed, highly skilled staff.

Recruitment and Performance Management

Governors oversee the recruitment of teaching staff and ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed.

Headteacher performance management is undertaken annually with support from the School Improvement Partner.

Governors also receive reports confirming that staff appraisal has been completed and use this evidence when considering pay progression.

Impact

- High-quality staff continue to be appointed.
- Professional accountability remains strong.
- Leadership capacity continues to develop.

Finance and Value for Money

Governors recognise the financial pressures facing schools nationally and continue to ensure that every pound is spent wisely.

The Finance Committee carefully scrutinises expenditure, benchmarking information and long-term financial planning.

Despite increasing budget pressures, governors have prioritised maintaining excellent staffing levels while investing in resources, learning environments and enrichment opportunities.

Governors also monitor the impact of Pupil Premium, Sports Premium and SEND funding to ensure resources improve outcomes for pupils.

Impact

- Financial stability has been maintained.
- Resources continue to enhance teaching and learning.
- Funding is targeted where it has the greatest impact.

Partnership with Parents and the Community

Governors recognise that the strength of Willaston CE Primary School lies in the close partnership between school and home.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for the trust they place in us each day. Your support with reading, homework, attendance, school events and reinforcing our values is fundamental to our success.

Governors would also like to thank our outstanding Parents' Association and everyone who has supported fundraising activities throughout the year.

At a time when school budgets remain under significant pressure, the generosity of our families has enabled the school to purchase additional resources, improve facilities and provide enrichment opportunities that greatly enhance pupils' experiences.

Impact

- Strong partnerships support children's academic success and wellbeing.
- Fundraising continues to enrich the curriculum and learning environment.
- Parents remain active partners in school improvement.

Wider Curriculum and Personal Development

Governors are passionate about ensuring pupils receive an education that extends beyond the classroom.

During the year pupils have benefited from sporting competitions, educational visits, music, drama, Forest School, leadership opportunities and residential experiences.

Governors were particularly proud of both the Year 6 production and the Drama Club's outstanding performance of **Oliver**, which showcased pupils' confidence, creativity and teamwork.

Impact

- Pupils develop confidence and resilience.
- Children benefit from a broad, ambitious curriculum.
- Opportunities enrich personal development and prepare pupils for future success.

Governor Attendance

The Governing Body met on six occasions during the academic year, with excellent attendance from governors. Governors also attended committee meetings, monitoring visits, training and school events throughout the year, demonstrating their commitment to supporting and challenging the school effectively.

Looking Ahead

The Governing Body remains ambitious for every child at Willaston CE Primary School.

As we move into the next academic year, we will continue to focus on sustaining the highest standards of teaching and learning, promoting excellent attendance, supporting staff wellbeing, strengthening our Christian vision and ensuring every child flourishes academically, socially and spiritually.

It remains an enormous privilege to serve on the Governing Body of Willaston Church of England Primary School. Every visit to school reinforces what a truly special place it is. We are immensely proud of our children, our dedicated staff, our supportive families and our wider community.

Together, we will continue to ensure that Willaston CE Primary School remains a place where children are inspired to learn, grow and achieve, living out our Christian vision each and every day.

If you wish to contact the Governing Body regarding any aspect of this Impact Statement, please direct all correspondence via the School Office.