

MINUTES OF MEETING

School: Lawrence View Primary and Nursery School
Meeting title: Autumn term meeting of the Strategic Development Committee
Date and time: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 at 4pm
Location: At the School and virtual via MS Teams

Membership

'A' denotes absence

Mrs Zoe Battison
Mr David Hill (chair of governors – attended online)
Mr Kevin Hubbard (attended online)
Mr Zach Towers (vice-chair of governors)
Mrs Emma McGrenaghan (headteacher)
Mr Scott Ufton
Mrs Anna Shipstone
Ms Claire Wagstaff
Mrs Laura Lord

In attendance

Mrs Emma Stevenson (observer - staff)
Mr Liam Russell (clerk to the governors)

SDC/22/25 Apologies for absence Action

There were no apologies for absence as all were present.

SDC/23/25 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

SDC/24/25 Election of committee chair

Mr Towers was elected as chair of the strategic development committee.

SDC/25/25 End of 2025 data review

A comprehensive review of the data had been provided in advance

Governor challenge: Why are maths results for SEND children down? It is cohort specific; it is a small group and is a result of the needs of the cohort.

Governor challenge: Have some children been off rolled?

No, that's not correct. However, two EAL children can be removed from our data scores as they were new to English. An analysis of the data shows that progress and attainment with children would have been higher if we hadn't taken in new children. Children are making significant progress, but these children are affecting overall performance data. Mobility is also really affecting our data, about a third of children are moving in and out of school.

Governor challenge: Y6 were slightly lower than national. Is there any evidence that years 5, 4, 3 will be any better?

No there is no evidence of that, it is cohort specific. There is good progress data for children, but overall attainment will remain an issue.

A governor commented that some cohorts are small and each child worth quite a large percentage.

Governor challenge: Looking at results, writing tends to consistently be the weakest area? Yes this is correct, and it is part of the school development plan. The quality of writing from Y2 onwards has improved as a result of changes made in EYFS – it takes time, and children now have a stronger start in writing at this school.

The LA have done a review of writing. The headteacher made the comment that our data is genuine and represents accurately the level the children are at. The experiences of children is often a factor in writing development, as is parental engagement - the support they offer to pupils is gradually improving. There is support offered by the school to families, but this is being reviewed for financial reasons.

A **governor challenged** and it was clarified that phonics is now slightly above national, following the introduction of a new scheme. The retest results are slightly below national levels when retested in Y2, this usually has reasons behind it such as special needs. The main group is performing well on phonics.

Governor challenge: Do those children that have not passed phonics in Y2 receive further tuition?

They do receive further support until they do achieve the required level later on in the school.

Governor challenge: What scheme is used? We use Little Wandle. Interventions are offered to those children who need it.

SDC/26/25 School improvement plan

The SIP had been provided in advance.

Governor challenge: Where do you consider we are on at on the new framework?

The school, based on the new framework, is confident that we are good, and working towards the strong, and are already strong in some areas.

Combined RWM will be above national average once EAL children are removed. PP is better than non-PP.

There is still some uncertainty about the new Ofsted framework and how some areas will be inspected. Some definitions of what is good and what is strong are still not known.

A governor said that there is more of a focus on leadership and management, and less time being spent watching lessons. Inclusion is a big part of the focus and runs through the whole inspection framework. Staff need to be familiar with the type of questioning they are likely to face – all barriers need to be addressed, not just the traditional barriers.

The school has judged EYFS through the new framework as an exercise and have agreed they are at the expected standard. The school is not expecting to get a needs improvement judgement, but there are things that need to be done especially around inclusion, and work has commenced on this. The school is very

strong on the personal development strand, but achievement is the strand we are most likely to struggle with.

Governor challenge: How successful is parental engagement?

It has improved as a result of efforts taken to gain parents trust and to make them feel well supported. The focus is to have more support around the curriculum this year with parents. A parent parliament has started up which will help with relations and closer working together.

Governor challenge: Are the meetings with parents of SEND children successful?

Yes, for parent meetings it is successful, but it is more about engagement on matters on the curriculum, so the more we do in this area we will hopefully build more trust with the parent community.

SDC/27/25 Quality marks

The science quality mark was discussed. Mr Towers has met with the team who have worked on the science quality mark. The report said that the school should be proud of their achievements

The thinking skills quality mark was successful and encompassed all that we do in school. OPAL quality mark has also been secured.

Arts Mark is in progress. Geography should be re-done now but may be stalled due to a change in personnel.

Mr Hill asked that congratulations and thanks from governors be passed to all staff involved for their hard work.

SDC/28/25 Ofsted changes and school evaluation

The staff are doing the self-evaluation as a team. The LA proforma hasn't been released yet, but this will be prepared once it has been released.

Governor challenge: Will we still see an improvement since the last Ofsted visit? The school has improved since the last inspection but as the framework has changed the outcome won't be directly comparable.

SDC/29/25 Any other business

There was no any other business.

SDC/31/25 Determination of confidentiality of business

It was

resolved

that all papers and reports be made available as necessary.

SDC/32/25 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will b held on 10th March 2026 at 4pm.

The meeting closed at 4:32pm.

Signed (chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Burns'.

Date

9/12/25