

MINUTES OF MEETING

School: Lawrence View Primary and Nursery School
Meeting title: Spring term meeting of the Finance and Business Committee
(delayed to Summer term)
Date and time: Tuesday, 14 April 2026 at 3:30pm
Location: At the school (and/or virtual/hybrid platform)

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
Ms Claire Wagstaff
Mrs Anna Shipstone
Mrs Emma Stevenson (associate member)

In attendance Mr Liam Russell (clerk to the governors)

FB/01/26	Apologies for absence	Action
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There were no apologies for absence.

FB/02/26	Declaration of interest
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There were no declarations of interest, either direct or indirect, for items of business on the agenda.

FB/03/26	End of Year budget
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Governors were given an update on the end of 2025/26 budget.

There is slightly more money than anticipated to carry forward due to a successful Lottery bid for play equipment.

Extra staffing and resources have been purchased with some of the underspend.

There is a dip in pupil numbers for the next financial year, and a resulting impact on the budget. This year was always going to be challenging, however predictions in future years are better and pupil numbers are forecast to return to current levels.

Governor challenge: Is more money coming in? Yes, we anticipate that nursery will be full and there will be more SEND finding. There are only three-year groups that are not full.

There is some money resulting from the arrangement with the other school that the headteacher is supporting.

Governor challenge: What are mechanics of this? The other school is invoiced for the headteacher's pay, which is used to provide back up support, including for

the deputy headteacher. The school has slightly more staff than they otherwise would have as a result.

Governor challenge: Has there been any budget surprises? No surprises, and there is some wriggle room if we need it. The budget is monitored closely throughout the year.

Governor challenge: We previously talked about decisions on catering and cleaning – was this the right decision still? Yes, we believe so. It has worked out more costly than predicted but for the quality, flexibility and involvement of the children it has been worth it. We feel confident and comfortable that it is the right decision.

Governor **approved** the end of year statement.

FB/04/26 2026/2027 Budget

Governors discussed and subsequently **approved** the 2026/2027 budget.

FB/05/26 Services for Schools

Governors discussed the services for schools contracts.

The library service has reduced in cost as it hasn't been utilised as much as we had thought, and hence a lower rate has been agreed. Teaching of music has been moved to another provider, and the quality of tuition has improved. This will require some investment in the school's own instruments.

The services for schools were **approved**.

FB/06/26 Staff absence scheme

Staff insurance has returned to the local authority scheme, as the premium was lower than the other provider. This does mean that some additional services such as counselling and access to a GP, have been lost.

In response to a **governor challenge**, it was confirmed that the premium at the other provider had increased by around £7k, due to the level of staff absence.

The move to the new staff absence scheme was **approved**.

FB/07/26 School audit outcome

Feedback has been received on the audit and was all positive. A few changes have been implemented as a result of the audit and are all now working well.

There were a few areas to tighten up on with regards to time frames, but nothing significant.

FB/08/26 SFVS

The SFVS has been completed and returned to the local authority by the deadline.

There were no matters outstanding.

The SFVS was **approved** by governors.

FB/09/26 Determination of confidentiality of business

It was

resolved

that all papers and reports be made available as necessary.

The meeting closed at 3:50pm.

Signed  (chair) Date 14/7/26