

Grange Primary School

Elder Avenue, Wickford, Essex, SS12 0LR

Tel: 01268 734420

Headteacher: Mrs M Elfenich

Deputy Headteacher: Miss B Langley



Dear Parents and Pupils,

Welcome to the Grange Primary School Governors' Page. The Governors will use our page to provide information about ourselves and our role within the School.

Regards and very best wishes to you all.

David Faulkner

Chair of Governors

Co-opted Governors are appointed from the community. Parent Governors are elected from within the school by other parents. Local Authority Governors are appointed by Essex County Council. Governors are involved in subject monitoring in conjunction with curriculum subject leaders. Governors will continue to meet twice a term with one meeting focused on Pupil Progress and the other on Resources. Additional committees focussing on e.g. Staff Pay will also meet when required.

THE GOVERNING BODY 2024-25

- Mr David Faulkner (Co-opted) Chair Term expires 01/4/25
- Mrs Maggie Elfenich (Headteacher)
- Miss Louise Leake (Staff) Term expires 01/11/24
- Mr Ciro Genovese (Co-opted) Term expires 02/2/26
- Mr Mike Haxell (Parent) Term expires 01/11/24
- Ms Jo Shea (Parent) Term expires 01/11/24
- Mrs Kathryn Hemmings (Co-opted) Term expires 19/4/27
- Mrs Laura Hand (Co-opted) Term expires 15/5/28
- Vacancy (Local Authority)
- Vacancy (Co-opted)

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE GOVERNING BODY OF GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2024/25

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of Grange Primary School Governing Body are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos 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 making sure its money is well spent.

The Governing Body is extremely grateful for the hard work and commitment shown by our whole school community. Our Headteacher, Mrs Elfenich, has been with the school for five years, and her strong leadership has had a great impact on our school and we are delighted with the progress being made. The positive outcomes of our latest Ofsted inspection is testament to this. The dedication of our staff, pupils and parents along with our school values ensure that our pupils reach their full potential in a caring, aspirational, learning environment.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Governing Body of Grange Primary School is made up of 10 members. It is made up of two staff governors (including the Headteacher), two elected Parent Governors, one Local Authority Governor and five Co-opted Governors. All of our Governors serve a four-year term of office. Co-opted governors are sourced from the community that the school serves and we are keen to have people from the local community who can strategically lead the school.

All Parents are entitled to stand for election as a Parent Governor when a vacancy arises. Our Full Governing Body meets twice each term, to receive reports on children's progress and achievement as well as monitoring the budget and to set strategic policy and direction for the school.

GOVERNORS ATTENDANCE RECORD

Our Governors have an excellent attendance record as set out below.

<u>Governor</u>	<u>23/24 (number of meetings attended)</u>
Mrs Elfenich	6/6
Miss Leake	5/6
Mr Faulkner	6/6
Mr Genovese	3/6
Mr Haxell	5/6
Ms Shea	5/6
Mrs Hemmings	4/6
Mrs Hand	1/1

A record of Governor Business Interests and any possible conflicts are held in the school office and also posted on the school website.

GOVERNANCE 2022-23

I realise we are somewhat biased, but over the past 5 years, Grange has gone from a struggling school to a good one, with outstanding elements (Ofsted comment). Children and staff enjoy the school experience and under the strong leadership of Mrs Elfenich and her deputy head, attainment results are very strong and governors are proud and pleased to see the outcomes at our school.

In terms of safeguarding at our school, Ms Jo Shea is the nominated governor for safeguarding. Mrs Elfenich, our Headteacher, advises Governors of any safeguarding issues which have arisen at our termly meetings. At our Resources focused Governor meeting we oversee the management and implementation of the school budget, which is prepared annually by the school Finance Manager, with input from the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. It is agreed by the whole Governing Body. There is a great responsibility to spend public money wisely and after several years of budget cuts we are pleased to report that the school and our Governors have maintained a balanced budget for 2023/2024 and is on course to achieve the same in 2024/2025. The committee is provided with a comprehensive report which details spending and any deviation from the budget. Adhering to the budget is becoming increasingly challenging with the present financial climate.

Regarding premises, our Health and Safety Governor carries out termly inspection walks together with our Site Manager. We are currently upgrading most windows in the school as well as perimeter fences, lighting and the EYFS outside area. We are also very grateful to the Parents Association for providing us with funding that helps our children obtain those "extra" things that we would not ordinarily be able to afford.

The Governing Body has discussed key data and results of pupil attainment and progress, so that we are sure that the school is on track to fulfil our ambitious targets for all pupils. We regularly monitor the progress of our disadvantaged pupils and those with Special Educational Needs, looking at how the Pupil Premium funding is spent and what impact this has on their well-being, learning and development. You will find details about this on our website.

Governors consistently review and agree school policies throughout the year, many are model policies supplied by Essex County Council or are based on Department for Education guidance. Whenever it is appropriate, pupils and parents are consulted regarding their views on policy updates and amendments as in the case of our Behaviour, Discipline and Anti-bullying and our Home Learning policies.

Governing Body meeting minutes (apart from confidential items) are public documents. They can be viewed at the school office.

GOVERNORS' PLANS FOR 2024-25

Our plans for 2024-25 include:

- Ensuring that our children receive a high-quality education in a nurturing and supportive environment in line with our core values.
- Continuing to monitor the levels of progress and attainment across the school.
- Continue to monitor the school's performance against the recommendations from the last OFSTED report of June 2023 and against the schools own internal annual School Improvement Plan.

CONTACTING GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Parents are most welcome to contact the Governing Body through the Chair of Governors, Mr David Faulkner via the school office.