

## The Governance Statement

### Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Buxton Primary School Produced February 2026

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

- 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.**
- 2. Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.**
- 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

<b>Governance arrangements</b>	<p>The Governing Body of Buxton Primary School is made up as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•2 staff governors (including the Headteacher)</li> <li>•2 elected Parent Governors</li> <li>•1 Local Authority Governor</li> <li>•1 Trust Governors</li> <li>•4 Co-opted governors</li> </ul> <p>Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body we have four co-opted Governors.</p> <p>Since the pandemic the governing body have continued to meet as a full body (not separate committees). These full body meetings are held more regularly, at least half termly and all aspects of the school are discussed, reviewed, challenged and approved. Consideration of reintroducing the two committees may be made in the future if needed. See page 3 for a list of Governors.</p>
<b>Attendance record of governors</b>	<p>Governors have excellent attendance at meetings, and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See page 3 for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings.</p>
<b>The work that we have done in the governing body</b>	<p>Following the Ofsted inspection in November 2024 where the school retained outstanding, the Governing Body has spent much of the year working with senior leaders in ensuring children continue to be supported and their needs met, despite budget constraints.</p> <p>This has involved reviewing the budget in detail including staff contracts, matching this to child need. Following two consultations with stakeholders, from January 2026 new operating hours were implemented. These meet the DfE's guidance of 32.5 hours minimum expectation of education provided in schools. The change in operating hours is to be monitored closely over the initial trial period against a number of identified KPI's.</p> <p>The Governing Body have undertaken a number of monitoring visits to meet</p>



	<p>with subject leaders to develop a deeper understanding of specific areas of the school. Leaders are held to account and asked to demonstrate the work undertaken in their area of responsibility. These visits have been undertaken in accordance with the annual monitoring schedules.</p> <p>We have filled any Governor vacancies and now have a full working Body of 10 people.</p> <p>Governors have reviewed key data throughout the year to see the impact of interventions and workshops on children's progression and attainment.</p> <p>Policies have been reviewed and agreed in accordance with our policy timetable.</p> <p>Minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents – you can at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.</p>
<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	<p>The Governing Body is made up of individuals who collectively have the skills and expertise to support and challenge the school. Governors do this exceptionally well. Training is regularly undertaken to ensure skill levels are kept fresh, and knowledge is updated and current.</p> <p>The Vision for Governance for the future of the school is to ensure we maintain a full complement of pro-active, knowledgeable and well-trained Governors. This will ensure the Governing Body can continue to fully meet its statutory obligations.</p> <p>Governors make an extremely positive impact on the school and its' achievements. They are able, and regularly do, hold leaders to account and triangulate the information they are given. They are skilled enough to know where to target their monitoring to ensure the education provided to pupils is as good as it can be.</p> <p>The Governing Body's aim is to ensure this level of support and challenge continues, irrespective of potential changes in the future. Governors will ensure this occurs through induction focused on continuing support. Governors recognise that succession planning for Governance is as essential as succession planning for senior leaders.</p>
<b>How you can contact the governing body</b>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.</p> <p>The Chair of Governors has a direct email for any parent who wishes to contact her directly: <a href="mailto:chairofgov@buxton.norfolk.sch.uk">chairofgov@buxton.norfolk.sch.uk</a></p>

## **Current Governing Body 2025/26**

Kathryn Corder	Co-Opted Governor
Juliet Stops	Staff Governor (Headteacher)
Clare Broughton	LA Governor
Beth Halliday	Trust Governor
Maggi Heavey	Co-Opted Governor
Jacqui Warren	Co-Opted Governor
Janet Cole	Co-Opted Governor
Sarah Melton	Parent Governor
Amanda Haslam	Parent Governor
Ellen Smith	Staff Governor

As Chair of Governors, Kathryn Corder will not sit on any appeals.

In the event of there being insufficient 'impartial' Governors to form the statutory committees or appeals committees, then Buxton Primary will approach other Governing Bodies to request support.

### **PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Each year Governors complete a Pecuniary Interests Form. This year there are three declarations.

### Buxton Primary School Governing Body and Attendance Record for 2024/2025

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Appointed/Elected</b>	<b>Term from</b>	<b>Term to</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Kathryn Corder	Co-Opted Governor (Chair)	Appointed	02/12/2025	01/12/2029	100% (8)
Juliet Stops	Staff Governor (Headteacher)	Appointed	20/04/2022		100% (8)
Clare Broughton	LA Governor	Nominated & Appointed	09/12/2022	08/12/2026	75% (6/8)
Maggi Heavey	Co-Opted Governor	Appointed	02/12/2025	01/12/2029	88% (7/8)
Jackie Warren	Co-Opted Governor	Appointed	02/12/2025	01/12/2029	75% (6/8)
Janet Cole	Co-Opted Governor	Appointed	15/02/2024	14/02/2028	100% (8)
Beth Halliday	Trust Governor	Appointed	23/02/2023	22/02/2027	88% (7/8)
Rose Syer	Trust Governor - resigned	Appointed	23/02/2023	19/09/2025	63% (5/8)
Amanda Haslam	Parent Governor	Appointed	04/07/2024	03/07/2028	38% (3/8)
Autumn Hales	Staff Governor - resigned	Nominated & Appointed	08/12/2023	31/08/2025	75% (6/8)
Sarah Melton	Parent Governor	Elected via ballot	04/12/2025	03/12/2029	Not appointed during this time
Ellen Smith	Staff Governor	Nominated & Appointed	15/09/2025	14/09/2029	Not appointed during this time