Drayton CE VC Junior School

"In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide.
Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too"
-Philippians 2;3-4

Cherishing each individual
Aiming for everyone to flourish
Relationships rooted in care and respect
Embracing collaboration and compassion

Annual Governance Impact Statement
Governing Body of Drayton CofE VC Junior School
September 2026

A very warm welcome to all the children, parents, carers and staff for this academic year. We would particularly like to welcome our new pupils and families. We hope that you settle into the school community and that your time with us is fulfilling and enjoyable. We wish you a happy and successful academic year and look forward to seeing you at upcoming school and church events.

The Governors' Role

As governors, we serve the school community and support its ongoing development. Our focus remains on ensuring the highest standards of education and well-being for all our pupils. We work closely with the Headteacher and staff to maintain a safe, caring and vibrant learning environment.

The details of the governing body are published on the school website so you can see who we are and our specific roles.

The Governing Body

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Governing Body of Drayton CofE VC Junior School 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 school is a Voluntary Controlled School. According to the Instrument of Governance the Governing Body of Drayton CofE VC Junior shall consist of the following members;

The Headteacher
1 elected staff governor
2 elected parent governors
1 Local Authority governor
4 co-opted governors
1 foundation governor appointed by The Bishop of Norwich
1 foundation governor appointed by The Norwich Diocesan Board of Education
1 foundation governor appointed by The Parochial Church Council of St Margaret Church, Drayton

Total 12 governors

How we work

The Full Governing Body (FGB) meets six times a year. We follow the Circle Model of governance. Sub-committees meet, when necessary, to consider different aspects of the school. Individual responsibilities have been assigned to specific governors who report back regularly as part of our Governor Monitoring Plan. The governors undertake a skills audit each year and attend regular training to ensure the Governing Body continues to have the appropriate range of skills and expertise to effectively undertake its functions.

Governors' attendance at meetings is recorded and must always be quorate (the minimum number of governors present to ensure that decisions are legally binding). Meetings take place either in person or virtually. As a result of this Governors have a broad understanding of the day-to-day life of the school. Minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents and are available from the school office, with the exception of those minutes deemed to be confidential.

This year the Governing Body has been monitoring the school's provision, providing support and speaking to staff, children and parents, whilst ensuring that all governance procedures are followed. We were pleased to receive a 'Good' rating when the Local Authority Governance Team carried out their Quality Assurance Observation reporting that *"The board demonstrates a solid understanding of its strategic role, effective relationships, and commitment. This is a confident and reflective governing body that displays the characteristics of good practice in governance."*

The Governors have monitored the School's Improvement and Development Plan (SIDP) looking at its impact on pupil achievement, progress and on pupil and staff well-being. The results of pupil achievement and progress are discussed with the Senior Leadership Team. The Headteacher reports progress to the Full Governing Body at every meeting. Governors are informed about the recruitment of new staff members and have carried out the Headteacher's annual performance management review.

Governors have a full overview of the school's finances and are able to oversee and question financial decisions including how Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding [ending Dec 2026] is allocated and its impact.

The Headteacher and leaders have worked hard to review and to embed the school's vision, ensuring that the school's Christian ethos is at its heart. The school has strong links with the local church. The Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools [SIAMS] took place on 10th June 2026 and the report recognises its Christian distinctiveness and celebrates how this enables the whole school community to flourish providing an environment for learning and growing in this caring school, *"The Christian distinctiveness of the vision, rooted in care for others, is highly effective in guiding strategic decision-making and daily practice." "This school is a community that lives out its Christian values through the nurturing of pupils and kindness towards others."*

Future plans for the Governors

- Governors will continue to monitor key areas as part of the FGB meetings, ensuring that the Circle Model of governance allows them to maintain their strong understanding of the school.
- Governors will develop their role in supporting the Senior Leadership Team, including the headteacher, providing challenge and a critical friend's 'listening ear' where required.

How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome feedback and suggestions from parents and the community - please contact the governors via the school office.

Kay Swann

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Chair of Governors