Governor Statement 2025-26

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the Governing Body at Clavering Primary 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 Governing Body Structure

The Governing Body is made up of a group of committed volunteers who bring a range of skills and expertise and come from a variety of backgrounds. Governors are committed to improving the education of every child in our school and invest a huge amount of good will, hard work and time. Clavering Primary School has a governing body of 9, with positions filled as per the following structure –

- 3 Parent Governors
- 3 Co-opted Governors appointed by the Governing Body based on a skills audit
- 1 Local Authority Governor appointed by the Local Authority
- 1 Headteacher
- 1 Staff Governor

The professional clerk, Vivienne Prentice, is responsible for arranging meetings, taking minutes and following up on all actions.

Impact of Full Governing Body Meetings

The Full Governing Body met six times over the 2025/26 academic year to inspect, review and agree school policies and monitor progress against the School Improvement Plan. At Full Governing Body meetings governors asked questions to ensure the school's standards and expectations are high and scrutinised pupil progress across all ability groups.

The school budget was examined and reviewed at Full Governing Body meetings and the impact of reduced funding related to the falling birthrate in Essex was discussed. Strategies to attract new families to the school and projects including the development of wraparound care and links with Clavering and Arkesden Pre-school were approved. Governors and staff worked closely with the Local Authority to ensure the school was making effective use of its funding.

Monitoring Focus Areas in 2025/26

Governors formally visit the school up to 3 times each year to monitor priority areas, observe and communicate with staff and to hear pupil voice. Visits enable governors to get to know the school better and ensure that actions agreed in the School Improvement Plan are being taken forward by the school.

In 2025/26, governors carried out monitoring visits during 2 Governor Focus Days:

Autumn Term

Focus: Attendance, development of SEND provision, building on prior learning and challenge for higher attainers.
Visits to Classes: EYFS, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6
Meetings with SENCo, Attendance Champion and Heads of School

Spring Term

Focus: Raising attainment in English and maths for all pupils; active pupil involvement in lessons; development of adaptive teaching
Visits to classes: EYFS, Y1, whole-school Assembly
Meetings with SENCo and Deputy Head; Pupil voice discussions with pupils from classes 2, 4 and 6

Governors also completed visits to monitor:

- Pupil Premium
- Health & Safety
- Safeguarding; Filtering and monitoring
- School Finances
- Premises

Governor focus areas for 2026/27

The Governing Body, the headteacher and senior management team and indeed all members of staff are constantly striving to improve and develop the school. The Governing Body will continue to closely monitor the wellbeing of headteacher, staff, pupils and parent communities and the progress and attainment of all pupils.

Specific monitoring areas will reflect the School Improvement Plan priorities:

- Pupil progress
- Adaptive teaching
- Provision for higher attaining pupils
- Finances
- Premises project with the Local Authority