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Headteacher Mrs SL Mackintosh BEd(hons) NPQH

**LANGSHOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL
 FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING – WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL 2026 – 18:00**

Governors Present:

Alex Carter (AC) Chair	Sarah Mackintosh (SM) Headteacher
Gabrielle Hopper (GH)	Andy Yule (AY)
James Brown (JB)	Steve Jones (SJ)
Jack Tavassolly-Marsh (JTM)	Joanna Johnson
Harsha Kasetty	

In Attendance:

Sonia Isard (SI) Deputy Headteacher	Amy Shevel (AS) Assistant Headteacher
Alison Edney (AE) Clerk	Brenda Ellis

PART 1 – BUSINESS MEETING:

ITEM	ITEM	ACTION
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were provided and accepted for Stacey Lewendon. The committee welcomed Brenda Ellis as a Staff Governor, who is covering for Jess Paulsen whilst she is on maternity leave.	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST There were no “declarations of interest” and both HK and BE completed their forms.	
3.	PREVIOUS MINUTES The minutes from the meeting held on the 17 th December 2025 were approved.	
4.	CHAIR’S UPDATE: Welcome to Belinda, (who is covering for Jess Paulsen whilst Jess is on maternity leave) as part of the team as the Staff Governor. Her insights and input will be a great addition to our team. School Visits Regular bi-weekly meetings are held on Fridays with the HT and Clerk to the Governors. We continue to cover a wide range of topics, such as the Catering provision and tender evaluation exercise which is pending, any safeguarding headlines, general staffing updates, outputs from external reviews (such as Early Years review) and HT wellbeing as a few examples. National governance developments Schools White Paper and SEND reform updates continue to shape expectations for governing boards, with renewed emphasis on inclusion, early intervention and accountability for outcomes. The National Governance Association (NGA) has highlighted the importance of boards understanding the implications for curriculum, funding and staffing. Not relevant to Langshott right now, however Trust inspections confirmed by government signal a shift in how governance effectiveness will be evaluated, particularly for academies. Boards should be aware of how governance structures, decision-making and oversight will be scrutinised.	

	<p>Learning Link platform upgrade from NGA provides updated training pathways for governors, supporting compliance, safeguarding and strategic leadership. This is a good prompt to ensure we continue to maintain relevant training in our role of governors at Langshott.</p> <p>Ofsted and regulatory landscape New Ofsted framework commentary stresses that governance must be visible, strategic and evidence-driven. Sir Martyn Oliver has reiterated that inspection should support, not hinder schools, but boards must still demonstrate strong oversight of curriculum, behaviour, attendance and safeguarding. Appointment of new Ofsted board members, including leaders from major trusts, reflects a wider push to strengthen governance expertise at national level. This reinforces the expectation that local governing boards maintain high standards of accountability and transparency. Funding, resources and workforce pressures.</p> <p>School funding pressures remain significant, with real-terms reductions of up to 4% predicted in some areas. Boards should ensure financial monitoring is robust, medium-term planning is realistic, and staffing decisions are sustainable. Economic impact from world events may impact budgets through increased energy costs.</p> <p>Teacher workload and retention continue to be national concerns. Recent analysis highlights leadership culture and wellbeing as key factors in retention, which boards should consider when reviewing staffing, performance management and wellbeing strategies.</p> <p>Governance practice and board effectiveness The National Governance Association has recently referred to the ‘Goldilocks zone’ of governance, neither too hands, on nor too distant, has been highlighted as essential for effective oversight. Boards are encouraged to reflect on whether their challenge and support are appropriately balanced. Diversity in school leadership remains a priority, with only around 1% of headteachers being Black. Boards should consider how their recruitment, culture and succession planning support diversity and inclusion. This also applied to our own Governing Body membership.</p> <p>Pupils, learning and community Government’s new Child Poverty Strategy and SEND Budget 2025 changes will affect vulnerable pupils and may influence local priorities for inclusion, attendance and pastoral support. Boards should ensure they understand the implications for their school community.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>OFSTED FRAMEWORK SM outlined the school’s plan to be proactive and to be on “the front foot” in readiness for an Ofsted inspection. It was agreed that Ofsted topics would be a rolling Agenda item. The first topic discussed was Inclusion.</p> <p>There are seven areas in the framework and these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safeguarding • inclusion • curriculum and teaching • achievement • behaviour, attitudes and establishing routines • children’s welfare and well-being • leadership and governance <p>All of these areas will be “rag rated” by the end of term and folders for each area have been created and are stored on the school Intranet. These documents will form part of the SDP going forward.</p> <p>SM and AC will work on the “Leadership and Governance” area in their one-to-one meetings.</p> <p>Quality teaching must come first and foremost as “what is essential for some, is good for all”.</p>	

	<p>HK suggested that some of the seven areas be divided amongst the staff and recommended the benefit of a “mocksted” style inspection.</p> <p>This item will be reviewed at every meeting and also included within the Headteacher’s report so that the Governors are as well prepared for an inspection as the school is.</p> <p>SM advised that Hiral does not have the capacity to be responsible solely for SENCO and discussed the possibility of the school moving away from faculties to teams more closely aligned to Ofsted Areas, this would include a larger inclusion team to give the school the capacity to cope with this with this being the biggest flag at the moment. Unfortunately, some areas are of out of the control of the school due to the lack of available provision from external agencies.</p>	
6.	<p>CLERKS BRIEFING AE provided a brief run down following her Clerk training in January. There were no questions from the Governors following the update.</p>	
7.	<p>GOVERNOR ROLES The document was reviewed again and there were no changes.</p>	
8.	<p>GOVERNOR VISITS AND PLANNING The most recent Governor visits were shared with the team in advance of the meeting and the visits were discussed.</p> <p>All the visits are up to date and reports have been filed and logged. JB is to provide AE with his report so that she can update the spreadsheet.</p> <p>AE is to send the Governors the visit form again for their information, together with links to the “New Governor” training via the NCSL in case anyone wishes to refresh their memory especially concerning visits.</p>	<p>JB to share his report with AE.</p> <p>AE to send training link and visits form to Governors.</p>
9.	<p>HT REPORT AND SDP The Headteachers report was shared with governors in advance of the meeting and a number of questions were raised before the meeting. Responses were prepared and shared by the HT and no further questions were raised in the meeting. Please see Appendix 1</p> <p>In this report, the SDP and Data were included.</p> <p>SM thanked the Governors for engaging with the document.</p> <p>AC thanked SM for her comprehensive report.</p> <p>A discussion followed concerning the White Paper and SM advised that everyone should be mindful of the trajectory. A conversation followed regarding funding. EHCP funding will be reduced but this will not take effect for a while. SI advised that the Government have created an EHCP Targeted Plus category but it is doubtful that there will be enough specialist provision. There are likely to be huge implications if EHCP Plus does not generate any funding.</p> <p>To this end, Trusts may be the future if the Local Authority is no assistance. There may be a need to form an Academy at some point and JTM suggested that this should become a regular Agenda item.</p> <p>SM commented that the school will need to see what effect the Local Authority reorganisation will have on the school and see what support is available from the East before considering changing to an Academy. There is also Oakwood school to take into consideration and JTM advised the committee that Oakwood now has a new Head who has moved from Worthing High.</p> <p>SDP: the most up to date information was shared within the Headteacher’s report. SI thanked GH for attending the Early Years Audit meeting. The meeting went well and six areas will be incorporated in the SDP (which the school is already doing).</p>	

<p>11.</p>	<p>DATA</p> <p>The most recent report was shared with the team prior to the meeting and a few questions were shared in advance of the meeting. Responses were prepared and shared by the DHT. Please see Appendix 1</p> <p>SI thanked AY for his assistance and noted that he will be visiting the school on Monday, 20th April.</p> <p>JB asked if there had been any progress with the children who have started in Reception. SI advised that they always liaise with other schools and undertake home visits. The data is low and the general ability of the children is lower. The school is losing two students as they are moving out of the area. The October census will decide how much funding the school receives.</p> <p>SM advised that the projected numbers in Horley are good unlike other local areas as Horley has seen a large amount of new housing developments being built.</p> <p>The school would really benefit from a sensory room for the autistic children as they do not cope well in a class of thirty children or assemblies. Unfortunately, there is no grant or bid available for this. The school will need to make some environmental changes to help the children.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT</p> <p>The minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on the 26th January 2026 were discussed and JJ provided the team with a brief summary of the discussions. Valentina Rosu has shared the following documents with the Finance committee in advance of the meeting on the 20th April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit Action Summary • Copy of Annexe 1 SFVS Submission • Copy of Annexe C Independent Review • Langshott TSV • LPS Final Report <p>The letting paperwork for the nursery has been completed and signed off.</p> <p>The SFVS was submitted. The LPS Final Report was discussed and to confirm, the in-year deficit is £158,911, with a carry forward balance of £229,193.</p> <p>The school has only seen an overall uplift in funding of £26,695 compared to the previous financial year, which has been a key factor in the budget position.</p> <p>SM thanked VRU for all her help and for the savings she continues to make.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>SAFEGUARDING AND SEND</p> <p>The report was shared with the team prior to the meeting and there were no questions.</p> <p>JB carried out his visit in February and his report will be shared with AE to share with everyone. SI advised that Surrey is offering more support with early help and there are now more external agencies. The YMCA offer good support.</p> <p>There are more changes coming to the KCSIE in September.</p> <p>AY advised that he had recently undertaken some training on Young Carers. SM advised that they have 16 young carers at present. Alison works closely with the young carers and the teachers know who they are and regularly monitor them and one to one sessions are held once every term. The young carers form a vulnerable group and are included in the “inclusion” category. The Governors need to aware of all the disadvantaged groups and SI advised that the school has the data to track the provisions.</p> <p>SM advised that the school had previously been given the “Young Carers” award.</p>	

14.	<p>GOVERNOR TRAINING</p> <p>The Governors were reminded to please update the Training spreadsheet which AE has shared.</p> <p>AC advised that she had attended the Chair’s forum in March where the emphasis was on communication.</p>	
15.	<p>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted framework • Academisation 	
16.	<p>SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS/BE to liaise with the Head of Wray Common School following their recent Ofsted inspection. • AE to amend and share the Governor Visits form • AE to share NCSL training link • Academisation to be a rolling Agenda topic • Governors to update the training schedule 	
17.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>The proposed meeting dates for the next academic year were discussed. SM and AC will meet to discuss this in more detail. It was agreed by the Governors that the Head’s report which was shared in February together with the Q&A document worked very well.</p>	
18.	<p>FUTURE DATES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 	

APPENDIX 1

[Responses to questions are Head's report April 2026.docx](#)