St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Shifnal

Governor's Annual Statement
Autumn 2026

In the interests of transparency, we publish an annual statement setting out the key issues that have been faced and addressed by the governing body over the last year.

Annual Governance Statement for St Andrew's Governing Body - Core Functions:
In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, our three strategic functions are:

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

Governance Arrangements - there are 12 Governors in total:

Our Governing Body meet statutory requirements to ensure we have the best structure and combination of skills and competencies to meet the needs of the School.
Our constitution is as follows:

- Three Foundation Governors
- One Local Authority Governor – appointed by the LA
- Three Parent Governors
- Two Staff Governors
- Three Co-opted Governors

Governors are well informed, undergo induction and ongoing training and have clear areas of responsibility. The governing body has a programme of meetings throughout the year that focuses on specific areas of governance, the role of governor is unpaid and voluntary. All governors have DBS clearance.

Attendance Record of Governors
A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body, of governor's attendance at meetings – this information is available on the school website - https://www.st-andrews-shifnal.shropshire.sch.uk/Meet-our-Governors/

Local Authority Monitoring
The School receives monitoring from Shropshire Local Authority and the judgment of the authority is that the school requires a low level of support.

As governors we work closely with the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that St. Andrews's provides the best education for the children and engage external support when required. As a governing body we are striving to provide an outstanding education for the children of Shifnal.

How to Contact the Governing Body: You may contact any governor via the school office.

Key Issues and Governor Monitoring

Governors continue to be ambitious for every child to Flourish at St. Andrew's CofE Primary.

KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL:

- Overall attendance is positive: with overall persistent absence below national percentages.
- Attendance for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is close to national percentages, indicating that pupils with additional needs remain engaged.
- Suspension rates are low and there were no permanent exclusions in the latest three-year period.
- Most pupils have less than 10% absence.
- Early Years, Year 1 Phonics and Year 4 Maths Test data all have a three year improving trend.
- Combined Reading, Writing and Maths broadly matches national achievement over the last three years.
- Reading is consistently exceptional relative to national and similar schools; writing attainment is also above national over time.
- Low prior attainers and middle prior attainers have achieved strongly in several measures.

School Results continue to be above Shropshire and National percentages.

In particular, Early Years is already hitting the government target of 75% of children achieving a Good Level of Development by 2028 with 75.9% achieving the target at St. Andrew's in 2027. 85% of pupils in Year One passed the Phonics Check. This was above both Shropshire and National averages. The school is committed to achieving the governments targets of 90% passing the phonics check by 2029. A new phonics lead and link governor have been appointed and staff are currently reviewing the phonics scheme. Children continue to leave St. Andrew's with good end of Year 6 sats results and reading in particular, continues to be a strength of the school.

The governors continue to monitor the strategic direction of the school. Key focal points of the School Development Plan this year, have been Introducing Oracy, improving the opportunities for music development and use of instruments, Assessment and focusing on the SIAMS point to develop children's understanding of Global Justice.

Governors continue to support the building of the new school and the Chair attend the consultation event for parents and the local community to hear feedback on the proposals.

Following three years of Gold, the school achieved the prestigious Platinum Sports School Games Mark and swimming lessons in the temporary onsite pool were a complete success.

Governors celebrated ongoing links with the church and attended services to celebrate and say good bye to Reverend Chris Thorpe.

Governors also monitored, Subject Co-ordinators reported about their subjects to the Curriculum and Values Committee. Governors carried out Headteacher Performance Management, interviewed for new staff, including the new Year 5 class teacher. Children visited Green Acre farm, where Governor Mark Lea educated them on the seasons of the year.

School finance continues to be well managed. Governors have undertaken training in Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, PREVENT, Cyber Security and Health and Safety to aid them in undertaking their role.

On behalf of all the governors, thank you for your continued support of St. Andrew's school.