



LLL STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aspire, Believe, Belong and Achieve.

Let Your Light Shine Matthew 5:16

Full Governing Body Meeting Minutes

Monday 26 January 2026 at 1 p.m.

Governors	Position	Initials	Present
Ruth Adler	Headteacher	RA	P
Nicky Bower	Associate Governor	NB	AA
Daniel Ingles	Foundation Governor	DI	A
June Jach	Clerk to the Governors	JJ	P
Gay Lewis	Foundation Governor	GL	P
Andy McAney	Local Authority Governor	AM	P
Suzie Mutch	Foundation Governor (Chair)	SM	P
Anna Low	Staff Governor	AL	P
Emma Hodgkinson	Associate Governor	EH	A
AnneMarie Henham	Governor	AH	AA
Elizabeth Rendell	Governor	ER	P
Alistair Strout	Parent Governor	AS	P
Sophie Jones	Parent Governor	SJ	AA

23 March 2026

No	Item	Action
1	Meeting started at 13.00 with an opening prayer from Suzie Mutch	
2	Present and apologies. Apologies were received from Anne-Marie Henham and Sophie Jones	
3	<u>Organisational items</u> The minutes of the November meeting were approved.	
L4	<u>Standing matters</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Safeguarding. GL said that her report was a starting point from which we can build. There was general discussion around safeguarding and AI with a suggestion that training should be carried out. RA asked it to be noted that GL does an amazing job with safeguarding visits. There has been discussion in school about vaping and whether a policy is necessary. It was agreed that at this time it is not necessary to have a policy. <p>A Governor asked if there should be training on restraint of children in certain circumstances. Discussion followed. The view of RA is that restraint is not possible. In the case of an incident, the procedure is to remove children away from the situation. RA will look on the National College website to see if there is any guidance. A Governor stated that they had had training and felt that the focus should be on what not to do rather than what to do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wellbeing - RA asked if SM could do the welfare visits with staff in time for the next FGB. ● Governor visits - AMcA carried out a <u>maths visit</u>. His report is available in the Governors folder. During the visit AMcA and Miss Stone split the groups so that they could have maximum involvement with the children. AMcA talked through the report. He commented that the children quite enjoyed the maths 	<p>Since discussion RA has found and completed a short training course on restraint.</p> <p>Interviews held 6/2. Report in next FGB folder</p>

	<p>exercises. Some of the children recognised that the work was challenging and that they liked the challenge. In discussion with the children, they were open and happy to talk about problems. AMcA felt that the children were very eloquent and capable for their ages. Presentation standards were good. It was evident that some of the difficulties in earlier years were worked through by years 5 & 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Governor asked a question about the use of computers versus work sheets. A Governor clarified that there is not that much use of computers. The main classroom screen is used mostly. RA asked if AMcA could do a visit in the summer term to identify whether there has been a reduction in worksheets in Year 2. AH had completed a reading visit and the report is in the governor folder. AL explained to Governors about the Year of Reading initiatives. Some parents have already volunteered to be involved in activities throughout the year. RA talked about the rewards system that had been used and that perhaps this wasn't always fair to those children who didn't have access to reading support at home. There was good general discussion about the initiative. AL plans to gradually roll out initiatives in the coming weeks. Language/style in some of the children's books can be outdated or inappropriate. However, whenever staff are made aware, inappropriate books are removed. ● The Health and Safety report was available before the meeting. There was nothing further to add except that the new access system has been installed for both the main door and the gate from Discovery centre into the playground. Permanent staff are required to carry fobs to enter and exit. Others, e.g. volunteers and FGB members must continue to sign in and will need to buzz in to the office to enter or leave giving a higher level of security for those entering and leaving the premises.. 	<p>AMc to repeat visit at end of next term</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><u>Headteacher's report</u></p> <p>RA talked through school numbers. A new child started today. Numbers for September 2026 are looking good as the number of leavers for September will be low. This gives an overall good picture going forward.</p> <p>RA displayed the latest performance data from Arbor. This information was also available in the governors folder before the meeting. RA talked through some of the data and explained that attendance data for December were impacted by illness. This follows the National Trend.</p>	

6	<p><u>Chair's report</u></p> <p>The Chair gave a verbal report.</p> <p>AS has taken on the role of IT safeguarding. SM did have some questions relating to safeguarding - see item 11 below. However, following discussion with RA these have been resolved.</p> <p>During the meeting AMcA was ratified to serve as Vice chair & Local Authority Governor for another term.</p> <p>GL explained that the level 3 Safeguarding course was very in-depth but useful. There was discussion around training in general and the use of National College. The National College offers a huge range of courses suitable for Governors and Governors were encouraged to have a look or to ask JJ to provide information.</p> <p>SM advised that Salisbury Diocese have asked if we are happy to share basic governor data with County. This was agreed.</p> <p>Annika Purkhardt, a bereavement counsellor has kindly offered her services to support children if necessary.</p> <p>SM has been in discussion with a representative of an arts foundation regarding obtaining a grant for the arts. SM requested a working group to be set up and to include a governor. There was general discussion with ideas for purchases.</p> <p>SM asked about the future trip to the Houses of Parliament. RA talked through the plan. This will involve years 4,5 & 6. A Governor talked about a previous visit that they had been involved with. RA advised that 85% of the travel costs are covered by parliament. It's hoped that Fossa will cover the remaining 15%.</p>	<p>Since the meeting, the Diocese and Governors Services have been notified.</p>
7	<p><u>SDP - School Development plan</u></p> <p>This was available in the folder before the meeting. A representative from Arbor had visited to make sure we were making the best use of the</p>	

<p>information available on their site. A Governor said it is difficult when the cohorts are small .</p> <p>Writing remains an area to focus on particularly in years 1 & 2. AL explained that it is difficult and there are a number of factors that impact writing. It's been noted that verbal communication needs improvement in some cases and that can impact writing skills.</p> <p>A Governor asked whether conversations could be encouraged among children when they're eating lunch. A Governor asked whether there could be champions who joined the younger children at lunch to promote this. A Governor commented that at an early age it is difficult to start conversations. AL pointed out that we are in line with the national figures. AL explained that children may need to develop skills including core, shoulder and hand movement and co-ordination skills to be able to move forward with their writing. A Governor asked in terms of motor skills, whether children do PE. AL said that all children have 2 hours per week and in addition, reception and year 1 have more outdoor activities. A Governor asked what can be done to improve verbal communication. RA said that Key stage 1 is challenging and it may be a while before children are able to move on. A Governor said that it seems, provided the effort and resources are put in place now, then the results will improve in the future. RA explained how the school are working closely with SALT (Speech and Language Therapy Services) to put a package of support in place both for individual children and also for groups of children with lower verbal communication skills - these are based around speech sounds, vocabulary building and concentration/attention. There are interventions currently running with individuals, small groups and parents. AL said there are a lot of initiatives in place but with the emphasis on retaining an element of fun. Children need to enjoy what they are doing. There was very lively and constructive discussion around the subject. RA said that it will be good to compare results after Easter.</p> <p>Using the screen and slides, RA talked about the vision for governors for SIAMS. She confirmed that the children are very knowledgeable about the school vision. RA wanted to make sure that everyone is clear what the vision is. Governors need to know what our vision is. RA asked governors how they would interpret the vision and Governors joined in general, positive discussion. RA will ask Tim or Linda to talk to children about understanding the school vision. A Governor said that provided the stories from the bible are repeated e.g Good Samaritan, then it will re-inforce their learning. RA said that a new mosaic is being installed outside showing the school vision.</p>	<p>GL left the meeting at 14.39</p> <p>Chris George joined the meeting at 14.40</p> <p>SM to contact Sue Soame to ask her to speak to the children about their understanding of the school vision</p>
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8	<p><u>Main Focus areas</u></p> <p>CG explained expenditure including the new secure access system. The secure access system included a much better system for exiting the gate between the Discovery Centre and the main school. Previously this had required keys. He is awaiting a quote for one way mirrored film on all external windows to support Martyn's Law which is due to come into force soon.</p>	
9	Covered elsewhere during the meeting	
10	<p><u>Maintenance contracts with Dorset Council</u></p> <p>CG explained the costs and the shortcomings of the current service provision. There was general discussion. SM asked if governors could help. CG asked if governors could write to the council expressing their concern. It was decided that a letter should go to both Dorset Council and the Diocese.</p>	CG left the meeting at 14.50
11	<p><u>Policies</u></p> <p>All policies were available to Governors in the folder before the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complaints - This was approved. ● Positive behaviour - This was approved. ● Privacy - There were questions from SM during the meeting. These were - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) How do parents give permission for the school to hold basic information on file e.g name, phone number, address. They add the information onto Arbor. ii) Do they give permission to share this information if needed. Yes for some services - other have to be requested specifically e.g. Ed Psych iii) As this relates to GDPR, is there a clause to say that they have the right to withdraw. They have to resign and change their own permissions at any point on Arbor - this information is relayed straight to the office by an alert. iv) Please confirm any safeguarding information relating to children is kept separately from academic information. Yes v) Is the information transferred onward with children to their next school. Yes. ● Recruitment and selection - This was approved ● Stress management - This was approved ● Teaching and Learning - This was approved 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Spirituality - SM asked some questions relating to the policy. The use of 'ows' was clarified by RA. Some discussion followed. The use of 'wow's, ow's and how's, has come from the Diocese and relates to children's spirituality. RA said we don't currently have to have a spirituality policy but in terms of SIAMS, it's good practice. - not approved due to the language/terminology used. To be reviewed at a later date.	
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The closing prayer was given by Andy McAney

Meeting closed at 15.08

Next meeting Monday 16 March 2026 at 1.00 p.m. in school