



Governor Impact Report 2023/24

Governors Core Functions

1. Setting vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the Headteacher to account
3. Overseeing financial performance

School Development Plan

Governors work co-operating with the Headteacher, SLT and Middle leaders in the writing and monitoring of the SDP. The SDP sets out the aims for the next year. The current SDP is based on school evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SDP is monitored by Governors termly.

Governor Meeting Attendance

The Governing Body is currently operating with one committee:

- Finance & Resources Committee

Governor Visits

The Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SDP and to broaden their knowledge and understanding.

Named Governors are linked to key areas and a member of staff.

The impact of these visits includes:

- A thorough understanding of the school and how it performs in order to make strategic decisions
- A renewed focus on the strengths and weaknesses of the school
- A much-improved dialogue with children and staff
- A sharing of information at Governors' meetings and actions required.

Data Analysis

Data is made available to Governors where they are encouraged to question and seek validation of results. Particular attention is given to pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and the effective use of pupil premium funding. Governors are also monitoring the PE grant impact.

Policies

Governors review all relevant policies on a timetabled basis to ensure that all information is current. Specific attention is paid to ensure the school complies with the department of Education's policy list and that of the Local Authority.

Financial Management

The Governing Body are advised by the School Business Manager and the Chair of the committee is an accountant. The impact of the Governors role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively and supports the headteacher with the challenges that the new finance system that the Local Authority have introduced holds.

Ofsted

Wyre Forest School

Wyre Forest School, Habberley Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 6FA

Residential provision inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this residential special school

Wyre Forest School is a special school for children and young people with a broad range of needs, including physical, social, emotional and learning difficulties. The school is a local authority service and is directly responsible to a governing body. The residential aspect of the service operates from Monday to Friday and can accommodate up to 15 children and young people. There were 15 children and young people staying in residency at the time of the inspection.

The inspectors only inspected the social care provision at this school.

Inspection dates: 26 to 28 February 2024

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **outstanding**

How well children and young people are helped and protected **outstanding**

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **outstanding**

The residential special school provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the school contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people.

Date of previous inspection: 14 February 2023

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Inspection of Russell House

The oversight of residency is strong and effective and is undertaken by experienced professionals. Governors carry out unannounced visits at times when the children are in residency, including during the morning and evening. This helps them to be assured that children are being supported effectively. The manager makes effective use of governors' reports to help the service to further develop. In recent reports, the governors have provided suggestions about how leaders can enhance the home environment to benefit children. Managers have acted quickly in response by making improvements to the children's communication areas. As a result, children are using the areas more, which is enhancing their ability to share their views, wishes and feelings.

What impact is the Governing Body of Wyre Forest School having on the outcomes for pupils?

Action	Impact
Russell House Ofsted – <u>a second</u> Outstanding judgement	Full report was presented at governors and on website. Russell House received an overall judgement of Outstanding and Outstanding in all areas.
To play an active role in the development of Mental Health at WFS by ensuring a Governor is part of the working party.	Governors are aware of the mental health issues faced by the staff and staff welcomes and appreciated the well being days for 2023/24. Staff absence is below that of national figures and two days have been granted again for 2024/25
Been strategic in their thinking regards premises and increasing pupil numbers.	The strategic work that was completed at the end of last academic year has enabled the school to grow by 50 pupils and the relevant number of staff with no detrimental impact to the school. This has significantly helped many families.
The impact of grow your own teachers has been phenomenal, as has recruiting parents to casual Tas and then permanent TA's. Governors saw an issue with recruiting Grade 3 TA's and have granted 4 places to train full funded and then build our own NCFE registered TA training centre.	Very small issues with recruitment across the whole school. Very small numbers of staff leaving and rarely to go to a new school unless promotion. Staff can see a clear career progression throughout the school.

<p>The Governors supported the school sensitively at a difficult time following the death of a pupil of WFS, Jordon (our pocket rocket) and a colleague – Ann Marie.</p>	<p>The whole school community could celebrate both lives lost and use this to continue to get better, fully supported by the governing body.</p>
<p>Safeguarding Governor continues to play a strategic role.</p>	<p>Leadership team held to account and unannounced visits to Safeguarding meetings show rigour.</p>