



Governor Impact Report 2024/25

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

During this academic year both residential and school were inspected.

Inspection of Russell House

Inspection dates: 4 to 6 March 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
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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: 26 February 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Inspection of Russell House

Inspection of a school judged good for overall effectiveness before September 2024: Wyre Forest School

Habberley Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 6FA

Inspection dates:

3 and 4 June 2025

Outcome

Evidence gathered during this ungraded (section 8) inspection suggests that the school's work may have improved significantly across all areas since the previous inspection. The school's next inspection will be a graded inspection.

What is it like to attend this school?

A real sense of enjoyment, purpose and positivity permeates through Wyre Forest School. Pupils benefit from a rich, ambitious and broad education. From the early years through to sixth form, the school prepares pupils well for their next steps. Staff have high expectations of what pupils can do. They believe in pupils' potential to succeed and have a detailed understanding of each pupil's needs. All of this helps pupils to achieve particularly well.

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

Action	Impact
Strategically supporting the further development of Russell House and rigorous monitoring.	Russell House Ofsted – a third Outstanding judgement. The full report was presented to governors and on the website. Russell House received an overall judgement of Outstanding and Outstanding in all areas with no areas for development identified – although we have.
Strategically supporting the further development of WFS and rigorous monitoring.	The school received an ungraded inspection saying we had improved significantly in all areas. A full report was presented to the governors and on website with no areas for development identified.
Been strategic in their thinking regarding premises and increasing pupil numbers.	4 new rooms are being created with portacabins and planning permission sought for 5 further rooms.

Strategic direction of the curriculum and rigorously questioning intent, implementation, and impact.	More children are making progress across the Pathways due to needs being met more appropriately – more children are accessing NC than ever. Ofsted reports.
The Governors supported the school sensitively at a difficult time following the death of a colleague – Carole Horton	The whole school community celebrated Carole's life and dedication to our school and were fully supported by the governing body.
Safeguarding Governor continues to play a strategic role.	The leadership team held to account and unannounced visits to Safeguarding meetings show rigour. Both inspections said safeguarding was effective.