



Governor Impact Report 2025/26

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. We are now using the new Ofsted Toolkit and Handbook.

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. 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.

Ofsted

During this academic the residential was inspected and for the fourth time in succession achieved outstanding in all areas.

Inspection of Russell House

Inspection dates: 12 to 14 January 2026

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.

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 – <u>a fourth</u> 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.
Been strategic in their thinking regarding premises and increasing pupil numbers.	The Cabins are in place, additional lanes created in the main compound to safely get children into the school, dining room expanded and The Lodge created so that the additional pupils have the most appropriate environment.
International visitors (Hong Kong) and UK visitors have been to WFS to see the curriculum in action and the vision for WFS.	WFS impacting beyond Kidderminster and this in turn makes us incredibly reflective and thrive on the challenging questions.
Best Practice Teaching Assistant Award supported.	We have achieved BPTAA and from this there is now quality TA appraisal and a WFS promise
Strategically supported HT in recruiting L3 TA Apprentices to not only support recruitment, but far cheaper than agency cover.	School is fully staffed and there is clear succession planning and career pathway for all.
Safeguarding Governor continues to play a strategic role.	The leadership team held to account and unannounced visits to Safeguarding meetings show rigour. Inspection said safeguarding was effective.