

**DERRY HILL CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VOLUNTARY AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL MINUTES
FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: Mark Paxford, Carol Foley, Richard French, Hayley Roberts, David Halls, Martyn Riley, Naomi Olnier and Kimberly Brown.

Clerk: Danny Holland.

1	Welcome and Opening Prayer The meeting was formally opened by the Chair, MP. DH led governors in prayer.
2	Apologies for Absence Apologies had been received and accepted from Zoe Armstrong, Kim Vale and Reverend Sarah Errington.
3	Register of Business & Pecuniary Interests No changes declared.
4	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 26 th November 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were agreed by all.
5	Matters Arising & Actions (from previous minutes) Matters Arising: None Review of Actions: Action HR: Subject leaders staff list to be circulated – Completed Action MP/HR: Governor Monitoring Policy to be updated to align with the SEIP – Ongoing (see Agenda item 11)
6	Head Teachers Update (verbal) The heads report had been circulated prior to the meeting for governors to review. School Context Comparing T3 to T1 why has the number of SEN support pupils decreased? HR explained that the school's Ordinarily Available Provision has a wide scope and through the high-quality teaching, inclusivity, interventions and implementation of everyday adjustments more pupils can be supported so the number of SEN support pupils has

	decreased. Attendance Targeted support meeting held with LA in Dec25. CF had produced Attendance governor monitoring report. Attendance letters and Late letters sent out to parents via Insight each term and recorded on the system. PNCs issued for families meeting 10 unauthorised sessions in a 10 week period. 20 pupils have been absent for 10% or more sessions. Holidays and sickness can affect these figures. Compared to last January we had 23 pupils so our figure for persistent absence has decreased. The school's attendance figures are above local and National levels, and Persistent absence is well below local and National figures, which is excellent. HR has carried out attendance benchmarking using the Similar Schools Report and we rank very highly on this and are first in some of the categories with very strong attendance. No pupils are in Alternative Provision. There have been no exclusions or suspensions. Staffing LP reverted back to her 4 days a week hours. VJ covering front desk on Wednesday mornings and increasing hours to make up finance officer hours. One member of staff on long term sick, supply cover teacher had received positive feedback from parents. Miss Rothwell had returned to the school as a student in Squirrel class. KB had recently completed 2 weeks of Jury service. Admissions Since the last FGB meeting, one child has joined the school and there have been no leavers. Two admission appeals have been heard, both of which were dismissed. There are currently 28 first-choice applications for the September intake. In addition, an enquiry has been received regarding an EYFS place from a family moving into the local area. There are also children on the waiting list, which will be reviewed in line with available spaces and the admissions criteria. Other School Activities Forest area in Bowood has been made available for the schools use. Kingston House links continue World Book Day was very successful SIA Visits have been carried out. Interventions/Booster Groups These will be reviewed in light of the budget available. Support for children preparing for SATs is ongoing.
7	SDP & SEF The SDP has been RAG rated, indicating that the majority of actions have been started.

	Recent Governor monitoring has been carried out and aligned to the priorities within the SDP. During recent Governor training for SEND and Inclusion, the use of impact statements was discussed. Would these form part of the document? The strategy documents already include impact statements. Action MR: PP Strategy to be circulated to Governors. The revised SEF template was circulated, and HR talked Governors through the self-evaluation judgements. Each section of the Ofsted framework includes a narrative evaluation, from which strengths and areas of development are clearly identified. Evidence to support the judgements has been documented throughout.
8	Attainment Data Whole-school attainment data was presented, broken down by the different pupil groups. Mathematics has been identified as the area with the lowest percentage of attainment. Work is underway to strengthen the teaching of Maths, including research into a new scheme and planned visits to other schools to review different schemes. In Reading, outcomes for boys are being closely monitored. ISDR data indicates that disadvantaged pupils are performing well at Key Stage 2; however, there remains a gap at whole-school level. The next data drop will take place by the end of the term, with Year 6 data being a key focus. In Year 5, MR is working with Jack Daniels to review the data. This has identified pupils who should be designated as working at Greater Depth. Reviews of Writing and Mathematics have been completed, and a Reading comprehension exercise has also been undertaken. In Year 6, Reading outcomes show an increase in the number of pupils achieving Greater Depth. It was to be noted that no questions were raised, as the commentary provided was thorough and comprehensive. Progress Progress across the school is strong. Whole-school data for Years 2–6 had been circulated; Year 1 data was not included as pupils were in EYFS in the previous year and follow a different curriculum. Where pupils have fallen back to expected levels of progress, appropriate interventions have been put in place. Boys' progress in Reading has been slightly less than expected; however, they are performing well in Mathematics. All disadvantaged pupils in Mathematics are making expected progress or better. 'Telling the Story' – MR has produced a report outlining the performance of pupils who have been with the school ("home-grown" pupils). In Year 6 (21 pupils), 71% are

	working at ARE and 10% at GD. The data indicates that pupils who joined the school at a later stage have had a negative impact on overall outcomes. Despite this, the report demonstrates that the foundations of the school, in preparation for academisation, are strong.
9	Finance The budget monitoring report (as at the end of February) had been circulated. KB highlighted the following variances: Income • Other Income – this related to insurance for staff absence. • VAT – There is £1000 to be received. • Water – £1200 refund received. • PP funding was less than expected. • Named Pupil (EHCP) £6K received. Expenditure (Overspends) • Teachers Pay - This is due to the Teachers’ Pay Award and teacher increments not being budgeted for. Supply costs are committed to covering teacher absence. • TA Costs - The TA cost code is overspent; however, this can be covered by the SEN budget. • Subjects - this is linked to the introduction of a new SDP part way through the financial year. • There is potential future expenditure relating to the photocopier contract, which will be managed through contingency. There has been savings realised in energy costs. Under the ICT cost code, what is JMAF? This is an annual subscription to Oakford relating to Apple/iPads. Curriculum ICT appears to be inaccurate? The allocation of costs within this area will be corrected.
10	Health & Safety/Maintenance schedule The maintenance schedule is up to date, and a check of the emergency lighting has been planned. An inspection report for the fire doors has been circulated, and a new external inspection will be sourced. A Sustainability Report has been received, showing that the school is six points more sustainable than in the previous report.
11	Governor Monitoring & Training Governor Monitoring Undertaken

	○ LA Review – 13/01/26 ○ SEND – 21/01/26 ○ Inclusion – 21/01/26 ○ EYFS – 04/02/26 and 20/02/26 ○ Year 1 – 25/02/26 ○ Year 2 – 25/02/26 ○ Attendance – 26/01/26 ○ All Classes – 25/02/26 ○ Behaviour – 13/01/26 ○ Safeguarding – 13/01/26 ○ Annual Safeguarding Audit – 08/01/26 Training The following training has been undertaken: ○ CF – Governor Briefing ○ CF - DFE Prevent Awareness ‘Week of Action’ ○ MP – New Chair/Vice Chair network meetings ○ DH – Disadvantaged Learners network briefings
12	Safeguarding HR provided Governors with data analysis of Safeguarding concerns; this also provided a breakdown of the number of concerns per category. The Safeguard system is being discontinued and we will be moving over to CPOM’s by the end of March. One GDPR incident had been recorded in the Spring term. Mr Riley has completed DSL lead refresher training with Wilts LA. Safeguarding Newsletter sent out to parents in January 2026. Safeguarding monitoring visit from LA completed and actions completed from this. Report from LA attached. CF has submitted a Safeguarding monitoring report (see One Note). LA Safeguarding Audit completed and submitted in January 2026. This was approved by MP and CF. CF has submitted a monitoring report for this also. Safeguarding Strategic meetings planned every 2 weeks (doe DSL/DDSL’s) where open cases are discussed. This has proved to be very effective. There are new requirements for PREVENT training for governors. PREVENT risk assessment produced and section on PREVENT added to the school website Action: HR to re-circulate PREVENT training instruction to governors
13	Church School Distinctiveness A Christian Distinctiveness meeting will take place on 13 May 2025 at 3.00pm. The RE subject lead has visited another local school to review and develop the RE curriculum, and twilight sessions are planned to support the implementation of the revised curriculum in the next academic year. In addition, the Year 6 leavers’ service has been planned.

14	Policies The following policies were adopted 'en-bloc': • DHS Maths Policy 2026 – 2026 • DHS Biometric Statement 2026 • DHS Children with Medical Needs that cannot attend school 2026 • DHS Equality Statement 2026 • DHS Equality Information and Objectives Policy 2026 • DHS First Aid Policy 2026 • DHS GDPR Policy 2026 • DHS LAC and Previously LAC Children Policy Jan 2026 • DHS Online Safety Policy 2026 • DHS Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions 2026 • DHS Vehicle Movement Policy 2026 • Lone Working Policy Nov 2025 The following policy was to be carried over to the next meeting: • DHS Admissions Arrangements – a further review is to be carried out due to additional information from the Diocese being received.
15	AOB None. The closed with a prayer.
16	Meeting Close Next Meetings • 7th May 2026 in school at 6pm • 9th July 2026