SPRING TERM 2026

MINUTES of the meeting of the Governors of East Claydon C of E School held at the school on 21 January 2026 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:	Mr N Abrams Mr G Avery (Headteacher) Mr R Elvin Mrs H Prudhomme Mrs S Thomson Mr R Webster (Chair) Mrs K Wilcox	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mrs K Richardson	Governance Professional
ABSENT:	Mr K Batchelor Mrs J Cannon	Apologies received and accepted

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

		ACTION
1	**NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS** No items were tabled for discussion under Any Other Urgent Business	
2	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / LOYALTY IN RELATION TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** There were no declarations of interest in items covered at this meeting.	
3	**MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**	
3.1	**MINUTES** The non confidential and confidential minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2025, having been circulated, were confirmed as an accurate record. The Chair would mark the minutes as signed on GovernorHub.	**Chair**
3.2	**MATTERS ARISING** Matters arising were covered under other agenda items.	
4	**SAFEGUARDING**	

ACTION

There were no safeguarding updates.

5 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

5.1 REPORT OF THE HEADTEACHER AND GOVERNORS' QUESTIONS

The Report of the Headteacher, having been circulated, was received by Governors. The following matters arose from a discussion and scrutiny of the report and information circulated:

- There are currently 104 pupils on roll.
- There are 3 spaces across the school.
- Numbers of pupils are over PAN in Year 4 and 5. It is expected that 1 pupil will leave Year 4, reducing the numbers of pupils in that year group back to 15.
- The school is experiencing lots of families who are touring the school, have children with SEN needs.
- Some pupils have joined the school, due to their catchment schools being full.
- 25% of pupils are SEN support which is a significantly high number. This is compared to 14.8% national. This does have an impact on staff wellbeing and workload, putting additional pressure on staff. This is a concern. There are 7 pupils with an EHCP. This number is expected to increase, with 3 pupils waiting to go to assessment.
- Due to the high level of SEN pupils, this puts an additional pressure on the school budget, as well as additional pressure on staffing. If the school's profile continues following this trend, this was a concern.
- The school has low numbers of FSM and pupil premium pupils.
- Staff are also supporting a pupil with medical needs.
- Attendance – Attendance has dropped below 95%. There had been lots of illness which had impacted on attendance. 1 pupil is attending alternative provision.
- There had been no suspensions or exclusions.

<u>Data</u>

- Year 2 – Year 2 pupils were on track in reading and maths, but no on track for writing. The transition from Year 1 to Year 2, where expectations are high, has impacted, with a group of boys who are working at below expected.
- Year 3 – 50% are working at expected and it is hoped that this will increase to 73% by the end of the year.

ACTION

- Year 4 – 63% are working at expected in reading and writing. 75% are working at expected in maths. There are a group of girls in the Year 3/4 class which are a focus group.
- Year 5 – 70% of pupils are working at expected or above.
- Year 6 – Some pupils lack confidence in maths. There is a group of girls which staff are working closely with. Some pupils with an EHCP are working below expected.
- Reading across the school is a focus.

Governors asked are all pupils marked on the same scale, including SEN pupils?

Yes.

- Adaptions in the classroom is a focus for this academic year. This includes planning effectively for teaching pupils with a wide range of abilities. This does have an impact on staff workload.
- Golden Eagles – Writing is a focus. Interventions are in place.
- Woodpeckers – Reading is a focus for girls who are SEN and working at below expected. Disadvantaged pupils are working below in maths.
- Swallows – There are no pupils who are working below in reading. Some pupils are working at just at and it is hoped that these pupils will more to securely at by the end of the academic year. Girls are outperforming boys. The school is looking at how to engage pupils in Key Stage 1 to develop their writing skills for transition into Key Stage 2. In maths all pupils are working at securely expected. The school can see the impact of the high-quality planning and maths mastery.
- Progress – There are no concerns re Year 2. In Year 3 31% of pupils is not making the expected progress in reading. In writing pupils are making good or better progress. There had been a drop in progress from pupils working at above expected and working at. The expectations of the Key Stage 2 curriculum are higher than Key Stage 2 and these pupils had just transitioned from Key Stage 1 to 2.
- Year 4 – 27% of pupils are not making the expected progress in reading. 1 pupil who had been working at greater depth was now working at expected. In writing 13% of pupils are not making the expected progress at this point in the academic year. 2 pupils had moved from working at greater depth to expected.
- The LA are in the process of approving an EOTAS package for 1 pupil.

ACTION

- Year 5 – The progress of the pupils in Year 5 from when they were in Year 2 is good or better.
- Year 6 – 17% of pupils who had been working at above expected In reading were now working at expected. 17% of pupils who had been working at above expected in writing were now working at expected. 33% of pupils in maths are not currently making expected progress from when they had been in Year 2. Not all of the curriculum had been covered at this point in the academic year.
- The priorities for the SEF are focusing on inclusion, achievement and progress.

Governors asked is there no national progress for data from the end of Key Stage 1?

There is no national scale for measuring progress due to there no longer being statutory Key Stage 1 SATS. The school monitors its progress, through its internal data. This does rely on teacher assessment judgements being reliable. For some pupils we are not seeing the expected progress, based on their assessment data from the end of Key Stage 1. Moderation, both internally and externally with other schools, helps to ensure teacher assessments are accurate. It was agreed that more moderation sessions would be helpful.

Governors asked do tests inform assessments?

There are tests for reading and maths. Writing is teacher assessed.

Governors asked do you think when pupils are nervous about taking tests, this impacts on their data?

There are guidelines re what support can be put in place for pupils when they are sitting tests. For some pupils with an EHCP they are allowed a scribe or a reader.

- Teachers have a high level of pupils with SEN needs and are working hard to support them. When analysing the data Governors needs to be mindful that these are small cohorts of pupils which can impact on the presentation of data.
- Adaptive teaching in the classroom is a focus.
- The school could offer booster groups, before and after school, however the school does not want to add additional pressure to pupils. The school also does not want to stop extra-curricular activities.

ACTION

- Data is also impacted when pupils leave and new pupils join the school, especially when new pupils join the school in the later year groups.

5.2 SELF-EVALUATION FORM (SEF)

Covered under agenda item 5.1.

5.3 SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP)

The Headteacher / Chair of Committees reported on the progress that was being made towards achieving the objectives contained within the School Development Plan as follows:

- Priority 1 – Develop challenge in the classroom – Challenge stamps have been introduced into the classroom. There is evidence of extension and challenge in the classroom. Challenge cards are being used. This has been a focus of staff CPD. The school is looking at whether to stream within classes.
- Priority 2 – Develop appropriate adaptions (OAP). The school has looked at additional programmes including Clicker. There is lots more work to do.
- Priority 3 – Pupil leadership roles – The capacity to work and develop this has been limited.
- The DfE has carried out a curriculum review which will be in place for 2028. The school is expecting for the school to have a SIAMS inspection next year. The last time the school had had a SIAMS inspection was July 2019.

5.4 BUDGET MONITORING 2025/26

- Governors received the month budget monitoring report.
- At the last meeting it had been reported that the school was forecasting an in-year deficit of £9,000 for the end of the financial year. This had increased the overall budget deficit to £21,000.
- The school has received additional income, including SEN top-up funding of £12,500.
- There had also been some additional costs of £10,000.
- This had reduced the in-year deficit to £5,000-£7,000 with an overall deficit budget forecast of £20,000.
- There had been an increase in staffing costs of £6,000. £5,000 of this was TA costs.
- The school has started looking at the provisional budget for the financial year 2026/27. The deadline for the

		ACTION
	provisional Financial Plan to be submitted to the LA is 27 February 2026. • The school needs to now look at journalling Preschool costs due to the cost of Preschool staff being included in the main school budget. The school was also looking at a monthly recharge to Preschool. • There had been additional costs of £5,000, including £1,600 in bought in services, £1,500 in building and maintenance costs (additional door security access). • It was requested that a storage unit was bought for the Year 5/6 classroom due to there currently not being enough storage space for the books. This was an operational decision, which needed to be made by the Headteacher. • The SFVS checklist would be circulated. • It was confirmed that the SFVS would be signed by the Chair of Governors prior to submission to the LA by the prescribed deadline of 27 February 2026 by the Headteacher / SBM.	**Headteacher** **Chair** **Clerk: Agenda** **Finance Committee**
5.5	**SIAMS/COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**	
	• The Headteacher had met the ODBE advisor on 20 January 2026. The advisor had fed back very positively on the work the school had carried out on the new vision and values. Spirituality is an area for development. • The school needs to ensure that collective worship takes place on a daily basis. • The school expects to have a SIAMS inspection next academic year. • The Headteacher would work on drafting a SEF for SIAMS. • A new Arch Deacon and Rector had been appointed. The school was waiting for further information. It is hoped that the school will then be able to strengthen its links with the church. The Headteacher had led the harvest festival and Christmas services. It is hoped that the new Rector will join the Governing Board. • Governors discussed adding an additional agenda to each meeting reflecting on the impact that the Governing Board had on the vision and values of the school. It was also suggested that staff were also given an opportunity to reflect on how they also impact on the vision and values of the school.	**Clerk: Agenda** **Clerk: Agenda** **Headteacher**
6	**GOVERNOR TRAINING**	

	ACTION
• SIAMS training would be arranged for Governors. • Mrs Wilcox and Mrs Thompson's term of office were due to end in March 2026. Mrs Thompson informed the Chair that she would like to continue. The Foundation Governor appointment paperwork would be completed and sent to the Diocese. • It was agreed for the advert for the Parent Governor to be included in the school's newsletter. • The Chair would contact KB. • RE would arrange a Governor visit focusing on health and safety. • Governors were reminded to complete the skills audit.	**Clerk: Agenda** **Chair** **Clerk: Agenda** **Chair** **RE** **Clerk: Agenda** **All Governors**

7 COMMITTEE MINUTES

7.1 RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Resources Committee had not met.

7.2 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The Curriculum Committee had not met

7.3 HR RELATED PANELS / COMPLAINTS PANELS / PUPIL DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES

These Committees had not needed to meet.

8 DELEGATED REPORTS: GOVERNORS

8.1 REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair had not taken any action under emergency or delegated powers.

9 OTHER MATTERS/NEW BUSINESS

9.1 POLICIES

Governors reviewed and approved the following policies

- Admissions Policy 2027/28
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs

9.2 ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS

		ACTION
	• The Admissions Policy 2027/28 had been out for consultation, and the consultation process ends today. • The school had not received any comments. • There had been no changes made to the policy. Governors approved the policy. • The policy would be sent to the LA and the Diocese.	**Chair/ Headteacher**
10	**DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**	
	The following dates and times of future meetings had previously been agreed: • 11 March 2026 at 7.00pm • 13 May 2026 at 7.00pm • 8 July 2026 at 7.00pm	**All Governors**
11	**ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**	
	There was no other business.	
12	**CONDUCT OF MEETING**	
	Governors confirmed that the meeting was conducted in an open manner and that all governors were invited to participate and contribute to discussions. It was confirmed that all members of the Governing Board would have access to these minutes ***(with the exception of any Restricted Confidential Minutes)*.**	

The meeting closed at 20.34pm.

Signed …… Date ……
CHAIR