

Wendron
C of E Primary School



Annual **Governance Impact Report**

2023/24

Kernow Learning

#AsOne

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Introduction

This report serves as a means for the Local Governing Body (LGB) of Wendron C of E Primary School to be transparent about its activities and outcomes throughout the academic year, showcasing how the LGB has fulfilled its responsibilities in line with the Kernow Learning scheme of delegation and the school's vision and values.

School Priorities 23/24

The priorities for this year have been:

- To create an ambitious curriculum that is well sequenced to enable all children to know more and remember more
- To develop assessment strategies to allow teachers to plan children's learning accurately, with a focus on supporting children with SEND and those falling behind.
- To improve early reading and develop an ambitious reading curriculum across the school
- EYFS – improve the quality of provision, including teaching and learning



Purpose of Governance

Governance exists to provide strong strategic leadership to a Trust and school, ensuring accountability for its educational and financial performance.

There are four core functions of governance:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
- Ensure the voices of school stakeholders are heard.

Within Kernow Learning, the Trust Board is the employer and ultimately accountable for ensuring compliance with the core functions. Each Kernow Learning school has a Local Governing Board (LGB) that is delegated responsibility to monitor the "4 S's" Standards, Safeguarding, Stakeholders and SIAMs.



Changes in Local Governing Board

Across this academic year, our LGB has seen the following changes:

We welcomed Vanessa Morley to the LGB as a Foundation Governor. Vanessa's love of learning led her to retrain to become a primary practitioner and across her career she has worked across all key stages. Vanessa quickly became a Senior Leader, leading English and RE in a Trust school in Hertfordshire, which was rated by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' across all areas.

We said goodbye to Pip Denham as a Parent Governor and Michael Bretton as a Foundation Governor. Our thanks go to Pip and Michael for all they have done for the School and LGB.

The Chair of Governors, Scott Wilson, stood down at the end of this academic year after spending two years building the Local Governing Body. We thank Scott for all he has done for our school and the coaching and mentoring he has provided to our new Governors.

We end the year with three vacancies, which will be advertised at the start of the 24/25 academic year.

Training and Network Groups

Governors have benefitted from training from the Kernow Learning, The Diocese of Truro, the National Governors Association and other external agencies, to enable them to confidently challenge and support the school to achieve the best possible outcomes for the children.

This includes training on Safeguarding, PREVENT and SIAMs. Governors have also attended training on Arts, culture and creativity, improving your school and curriculum, Child on Child Abuse, Cyber Security, Cyber security Training for school staff, Data protection in education, Disadvantaged, Holding to Account, How to Fulfil the Governance Role, Monitoring performance data and targets, Oracy21, Preparing for Inspection, Online Safety, Positive approaches to challenging behaviour, Pupil Premium and Strategy (living your values, reaching your vision, managing risk).

Governors also attend various Network Groups within Kernow Learning including SEND, Safeguarding and Church Schools.

The impact of this has been that Governors are kept up to date with the latest challenges facing education both within our Trust and Nationally. The training is designed to give support and guidance on how to be a critical friend to our schools, allowing Governors to understand their roles so they can effectively hold our school to account.

Monitoring, Challenge and Impact

The following governor monitoring has been undertaken this year:

- Safeguarding: Focus on Single Central record, training for staff, how pupils are taught about Safeguarding and how allegations are dealt with.
- Safeguarding: Focus on Behaviour and Attendance, and strategies in place to support.
- Safeguarding: Focus on exclusions and bullying.
- SEND: Focus on Communication with stakeholders, transition, clubs and extra curricular activities, and more able.
- SEND: Focus on Transition, Attendance and how the school is supporting pupils with additional needs. How was their needs assessed and what resources were used and how was information shared/ sought.
- Curriculum Monitoring: This was an extremely detailed monitoring exercise to monitor an area of our school that was challenged at our last OFSTED and has been the focus of support from Kernow Learning.
- SATS Monitoring.

The impact of this monitoring has been:

- Monitoring key elements of the school improvement plan is enabling governors to see the impact of new strategies and triangulate the information received from the headteacher.
- Routine and systematic safeguarding monitoring ensures that a robust safeguarding culture is in place at Wendron C of E Primary School.
- Governors have strengthened relationships with key members of staff who are driving improvements day to day.

Governors have continued to share their knowledge and skills by supporting other Trust Schools.

Governors have supported at key whole school events, such as sports day, the Summer Fayre and school plays. The impact of this is it raises the profile of school governance within our community.



Feedback to the Trust Board

At the end of all LGB meetings, we feedback to the Trust Board so they are aware of any potential risks and challenges, along with progress against the school Improvement Plan and notable successes.

Self Evaluation and Development Plan

Our LGB undertook a self-evaluation process at the start of this academic year. This then informed our Governance development plan.

- Working with the Kernow Learning Trust Board, the LGB will support and challenge leaders to provide the absolute best educational experiences for the pupils who attend the school, ensuring that all statutory duties and responsibilities are met. Governors have a full understanding of the Trust's vision, values and aims.
- Hold leaders to account for the standards achieved and a 'fit for purpose' curriculum provided for all pupils in all subjects. Including the assessment, and support for catch up following the enforced closures of the school.
- Placing training and development of the LGB at the heart of this development work to ensure the board's skills set is working in support of the school is as extensive as possible.
- Support school leaders to continue to promote the school within the local and wider community and ensure that communication with all stakeholders is highly effective. This includes a Governors' termly newsletter and attendance at school functions and events.

School Priorities for 24/25

The School's priorities for 24/25 will be:

- To ensure we have consistent staff in place in all classes.
- To use coaching to develop teachers' pedagogy (Steplab).
- To use oracy to improve standards across the curriculum especially in writing.
- To continue using RWI to ensure consistent high-level teaching and learning in early reading and to further develop reading across the school.
- To review the effectiveness of our maths curriculum.
- To continue to develop a broad and balanced curriculum with effective leadership in all subjects.
- To continue to develop our use of assessment to inform practice so that all pupils achieve.
- To continue to strengthen governance.

The LGB will continue with a robust and carefully planned schedule of monitoring to ensure there is progress against these priorities.

The LGB self-evaluation process will be repeated in September 2024 and this will inform the governance priorities for 24/25.