



Caldecote Primary School

CALDECOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025 - 2026

This statement seeks to outline the impact of governance arrangements at Caldecote Primary School throughout the course of the 2025-2026 academic year.

Governor Membership, Vacancies and Attendance

The Instrument of Government for Caldecote Primary School allows for 12 governors;

- a) Three parent governors
- b) One LA governor
- c) One staff governor
- d) One headteacher
- e) Six co-opted governors.

The Governing Body Membership currently stands at 11 with one vacancy for a co-opted governor. At the end of the academic year, co-chair Mark Lydon stood down from governance.

Through the course of the 2025-2026 Academic Year, the Governing Body has recruited one new parent governor and one new co-opted governor.

Over the course of the 2025-2026 Academic Year, the Governing Body has been co-chaired by Mark Lydon and Pete Smith. The Vice Chair position was held by Mary-Anne Claridge.

The work of the Governing Body has been supported by Sarah Dodd as Clerk to Governors.

Over the course of the year, Governors at Caldecote Primary School successfully continued to demonstrate an overall positive attendance and engagement with their work by successfully engaging in person and online. Further information about governor attendance can be found on the school website.

The Structure of Governance

Caldecote Primary School has implemented the Circle Model of governance; this was the third year using this model. As well as meeting as a Full Governing Body, Caldecote Primary



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School also has two working groups, to ensure sufficient oversight, support and accountability towards areas of identified priority and statutory coverage.

These groups are

- **Curriculum Working Group** – to focus on the curriculum section of the SDP, but also any other areas of the curriculum that were flagged up by either the Head or the FGB as needing additional monitoring.
- **Resources Working Group** – Remit to include receiving and reviewing the BMR from the School Business Manager, monitoring and reviewing the annual budget and reporting to the FGB on finance/budget matters and to act as the pay body. This group also monitors and reports on premises and Health and Safety.

The governing body overall and the working groups have a continued oversight of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and manage the updates of school policies aligned to the areas of responsibility.

In addition to the above, the school also delegates Headteacher Performance Management to appropriately trained governors annually. Pay is delegated to the Resources Working group.

Committees related to purposes such as dealing with complaints or exclusions are constituted as they are required, in line with the determining policy. We have an agreement with schools in our network to support each other where needed so that sufficient governors with no prior knowledge of a complaint can attend relevant hearings.

Impact of the work of the Full Governing Body

Over the course of the last academic year, the Governing Body has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Supporting a new headteacher through their first full academic year
- Deepening our understanding of the challenges facing the school in supporting children with SEND and emotional needs
- Understanding the continued financial pressure that the school faces and supporting decisions regarding allocation of funds
- Supporting the school with staff recruitment, ensuring that safer recruitment practices were always followed
- Utilising the knowledge and contacts of the FGB to assist the school i.e. site survey etc



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Impact of the work of the Resources Working Group

Over the course of the last academic year, the Resources Working Group has demonstrated notable impact with regard to;

- Planning the budget for a challenging year ahead
- Continued effective monitoring of Health and Safety Practices at the school and ensuring the school is compliant
- Review site security and general survey

Impact of the work of the Curriculum Working Group

Over the course of the last academic year the Curriculum Working Group has demonstrated notable impact with regard to

- Monitoring the SDP
- Understanding where weaknesses have been identified in the children's knowledge and challenging how this is being addressed

Governor Training

Governors work collectively, so we are always able to benefit from our different points of view and considerations within meetings. However, the Governing Body has also benefitted from training courses on the following topics throughout the course of the year;

- New to Governance
- Safeguarding for governance (refresher) 2025/26
- Analysing and Interpreting Data
- Cyber Security Awareness Session for UK School Governors
- Safeguarding

We have also taken part in

- Termly LA Briefings – to remain up to date with latest Local Authority information
- Annual Clerks Conference 2026
- Termly Clerks' Briefings



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- In school training on supporting children to keep safe online

Governor Monitoring

As well as attending meetings, governors are also expected to visit school to understand more about school life and particular areas of priority (typically linked with different areas of the curriculum).

Throughout the course of this year, Governors have undertaken monitoring in relation to;

- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Premises and grounds
- Site security
- Curriculum monitoring
- Progress of the SDP

Forward Planning

Our priorities are to;

- Ensure the Chair continues to be supported as they develop their knowledge in this role
- Continue to support the new Headteacher in developing their leadership of the school
- Broaden the skill set and confidence of governors and encourage them to maintain personal confidence and ownership of their agreed responsibilities
- Recruit a co-opted governor and maintain a full board

Other information and contact

Further information regarding the work of the Governing Body can be found at:

<https://www.caldecoteprimaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Governors&pid=122> This includes information regarding attendance of governors and their Declarations of Interest.

Alternately, stakeholders are always welcome to engage with the work of the Governing Body by contacting the Chair of Governors via email to chair@caldecote.cambs.sch.uk regarding the work of the Governing Body.