

Bradfield Primary School – Annual Governance Statement 2025–26

Bradfield
Primary
School



1. Introduction

The Governing Board of **Bradfield Primary School** is committed to ensuring the school provides a safe, inclusive and ambitious learning environment for all pupils. Although annual governance statements are not a statutory requirement for maintained schools, the Board believes in transparency and accountability and publishes this statement as part of good governance practice. On behalf of the Governing Body, I am pleased to present this annual report to parents and carers. The report outlines our key activities, achievements, and focus areas for Bradfield Primary School over the past academic year and for the next academic year.

2. Overview

The 2025–2026 academic year has been one of sustained improvement and strong leadership. Throughout the year, the school has remained firmly committed to providing a safe, inclusive and ambitious learning environment where pupils are supported to achieve academically, socially and emotionally.

Despite periods of staffing change, the school has maintained high standards across safeguarding, behaviour, curriculum implementation and early reading. Leaders have responded proactively to emerging issues, ensuring continuity for pupils and maintaining a calm and purposeful school culture.

3. Governance Arrangements

The Governing Board has three statutory duties:

- **Strategic Leadership** – setting the school’s vision, values and long-term direction
- **Accountability** – holding the Headteacher and senior leaders to account for educational performance and staff development
- **Financial Oversight** – ensuring public money is used well and delivers value for pupils

These principles underpin all governance activity at Bradfield.

The Governing Board consists of Parent (2), Co-opted (6), Local Authority (1) and Staff Governors (1), alongside the Headteacher and Associate Governors. Governors serve four-year terms and bring a range of professional skills to support and challenge the school.

Each term there are at least two full Governing Body meetings, one each for

- **Curriculum (Teaching, Learning)**
- **Resources (Finance, Personnel)**

In addition, Governors carry out **regular monitoring visits**, linked to the School Development Plan including **Safeguarding, Standards** and **Health & Safety/Premises**. Monthly Finance update & monitoring meetings are held on Teams. Additional Governor meetings are convened where and if the need arises.

Attendance of Governors to all meetings is strong across the year and all meetings have been quorate.

4. Work of the Governing Board This Year

Your Governing Board works behind the scenes to support the school, ask challenging questions, and make sure every child gets the best possible education. Here's a quick look at what we've been doing this year.

✓ Supporting Learning

- Reviewed SATS results and helped shape next steps in Maths and Reading.
- Visited lessons and learning activities (inc. KS1 maths, curriculum trips, enrichment days)
- Celebrated the school's rich curriculum (inc. visits and trips)

✓ Keeping Children Safe

- Checked safeguarding procedures and policies.
- Observed staff supporting children sensitively during big events like Christingle and the Carol Concert.
- Monitored attendance, behaviour and wellbeing.

✓ Managing School Finances

- Approved the school budget and monitored spending.
- Ensured funding such as Pupil Premium and Sports Premium is used effectively.
- Supported the school through staffing changes and recruitment.

✓ Supporting Staff & Leadership

- Met regularly with the Headteacher to review progress and challenges.
- Supported leadership during periods of staffing pressure.
- Welcomed returning staff and monitored workload and wellbeing.

✓ Being Part of School Life

Governors attended:

- Whole school events (e.g. Sports Day, Christingle, Assembly)
- In school small group events (e.g. YR/KS1 Christmas play, Y3/4 play, Y5/6 play)
- Off-site events (e.g. KS2 Carol Concert , Tendring Vocal Festival)
- Enrichment events (e.g. Zoo, Woodbridge Longship, Manningtree culture)
- FOBS events

We love seeing the children shine and celebrating their achievements with you.

6. Priorities for 2026–27

- Continue to raise attainment in Maths by embedding improvements through greater consistency in fluency, reasoning, vocabulary
 - Maintain progress in early reading and phonics
 - Further improving attendance, particularly reducing persistent absence and strengthening early intervention.
 - Continue to ensure financial sustainability
 - Supporting staff wellbeing
 - Continue to monitor enrichment and community engagement
 - Continue work package to align with the Department of Education's (DfE) 2030 Digital Strategy
-

7. Overall Assurance

Governors are satisfied that Bradfield Primary School continues to provide a safe, caring and ambitious learning environment where pupils thrive academically and personally.

Leadership remains strong, safeguarding is effective, behaviour is exemplary and the curriculum continues to develop positively. While attendance remains an important strategic priority, leaders have appropriate plans in place to address ongoing challenges.

The governing body wishes to thank all staff, pupils, parents and volunteers for their continued commitment and contribution throughout the academic year. The school enters 2026–2027 in a strong position, with clear priorities and the capacity to continue its journey of sustained improvement.

If you ever want to know more about governance or get involved, please contact the Chair of Governors via the school office.