

Publication of Governor's Details and Register of Interests

In the interests of transparency, all schools and academies should publish, including on their website, up to date details of the structure of the governing body and any committees, together with the names of their governors and their particular roles and responsibilities within that structure. They should also publish relevant business and pecuniary interests.

Schools and academies should also publish an annual statement setting out the key issues that have been faced and addressed by the governing body over the last year, including an assessment of the impact of the governing body on the school.

The three core strategic functions of the Governing body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Burradon Community Primary School's Governing Body meets twice a term with additional meetings as required. We also have 3 main committees which meet at least once a term.

- Staffing Finance, Premises, Health and Safety Committee
- Curriculum and Communications Committee

Governing Body's Annual Statement for 2025-2026 academic year

The issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body over the last academic year were:

- **Budget constraints, staffing changes and securing the sustainability of the school moving forwards.**
 - Ensuring the school can continue to operate within a balanced budget linked to rising costs, increasing SEND complexities and falling pupil numbers whilst maintaining high standards of achievement.
 - Ensuring that a rigorous, full review of the staffing structure was carried out on a termly basis to identify the business needs of the school moving forward, including staffing structure and class organisation.
 - Continuing to raise concerns linked to the current predicament of the school's low numbers and increasing impact of complex SEND needs across the school with North Tyneside Local Authority.
 - Continuing to monitor the increasing impact of complex SEND needs on our school budget (excluding our notional SEND figure).

- **Increasing SEND needs across the school including complexities and impact on budget**
 - Further investigate the increasing needs of SEND across the school.
 - Monitor the increasing impact of complex SEND needs on our school budget (excluding our notional SEND figure)
 - Work with a range of stakeholders including the LA SEND and finance teams to monitor the impact of increasingly complex SEND across the school.
 - Ensure the number of EHCPs (including intakes) and increasing complex SEND needs (including intakes) can be catered for and effectively staffed for 2026-2027 academic year.
 - Investigate how we can further enhance inclusive provision within our current setting.
- **Building and premises repairs after the flood in August 2025**
 - Following the significant flood that occurred in August 2025, work alongside the Headteacher to return the school to full operational capacity as soon as possible.
 - Support the Headteacher to work with a range of stakeholders from the Insurance Company (RPA), LA and outside contractors to implement an effective plan for return the school to full operational capacity following the flood.

The impact of the Governing Body on the school was:

- **Budget constraints, staffing changes and securing the sustainability of the school moving forwards**
 - The 2025/2026 financial year outturn was a final in-year deficit of £15,969.89, significantly improved from earlier projections. Governors acknowledged ongoing financial pressures, including SEND costs, staffing absence and inflation.
 - The Headteacher and the Chair of Governors attended a Local Authority Deficit Clinic meeting over TEAMS on 1st July 2026.
 - The Headteacher and the Chair of Governors have received a deficit approval letter for £15,970.00 (maximum deficit level) from the Local Authority (David Mason – Director of Resources)
 - The school has set a deficit budget for 2026/2027 of -£124,373.00
 - Governors considered the three-year budget (2026–29) at their July 2026 FGB meeting. They recognised significant uncertainty around pupil numbers, SEND provision, and external factors affecting roll, and supported the Headteacher's recommendation to set a deficit budget.
 - Governors considered and supported the proposed staffing structure for 2026/27. In reaching their decision, governors recognised the importance of maintaining pure year groups, particularly in upper Key Stage 2. They agreed that avoiding mixed Year 5/6 classes would help protect educational standards and pupil outcomes.

- Governors also noted that retaining the current structure would provide flexibility to accommodate future increases in pupil numbers arising from local housing developments and school reorganisation, whilst also supporting the continued stabilisation.
 - Governors noted that this approach enables the school to maintain safe staffing structures, avoid excessive class sizes and protect provision, particularly in Early Years and for pupils with SEND.
 - The Headteacher and the Chair of Governors will engage with the Local Authority's deficit procedures including completing a Deficit Recovery Plan and engaging fully in the Deficit Clinic process.
 - Despite the deficit, the Headteacher and governors are confident that the school is taking a prudent and ethically sound approach to financial management, prioritising educational quality and pupil safety and capacity.
 - Following the discussions governors approved the Budget 2026/27. It was agreed that the FSP&H&S sub will continue to monitor the school's financial position.
- **Increasing SEND needs across the school including complexities and impact on budget**
 - Headteacher and SENDCo have continued to hold meetings with members of the LA (Senior SEND) to ensure that the staffing in place meets the needs of the pupils in schools as effectively as we can within our staffing structure.
 - Headteacher and SENDCo meet regularly to review the SEND needs across the school including those pupils with EHCPs.
 - Headteacher, SENDCo, Deputy Head, EYFS Lead and class teachers have worked to ensure that the increasingly complex SEND needs, including EHCP pupils, RFA pupils and pupils with additional needs are effectively staffed from the Autumn term 2026.
 - Impact on the school's budget (in excess of the school's national SEND budget) has been continually raised and discussed with the LA.
 - Headteacher successfully applied for an Inclusion Grant from the LA to further enhance inclusive provision within our current setting. This has enabled a re-configuration of the previous ICT suite into 2 separate rooms. 1 room is a significantly increased Thrive room to support increasing SMEH needs across the school. The other room is a designated support classroom to support targeted learning sessions, intervention sessions, small group withdrawal and individual withdrawal particularly in Key Stage 2.
 - The reconfiguration has enabled the previous Thrive room to be returned to a meeting room. This will be used for external agencies to complete assessments and individual work with children, e.g SALT assessments and targeted interventions, EP assessments, social care professionals as well as meetings with parents / carers.
 - **Building and premises repairs after the flood in August 2025**

- Unfortunately, the school suffered a burst community wing hot water tank during the evening of Monday 18th / morning of Tuesday 19th September 2025 which resulted in an insurance claim and a loss adjuster being appointed to work with the Headteacher to identify work needed following the flood.
- The Chair of Governors, Caretaker and Office Manager worked closely with the Headteacher across all aspects of the flood recovery plan.
- Alongside the insurance company, a range of external contractors were required to repair the flood damage across the full Autumn term 2025.
- The flood recovery was project managed by the Headteacher.
- The school returned to full capacity (use of small hall, main hall and kitchen) in January 2026.

Structure of the Governing Body (2026/2027)

- Chair of the Governing Body is Mr Damian Ramsay
- Vice Chair of the Governing Body is Mrs Janice Sutherland

A full overview of Burradon Community Primary School's Governing Body can be found on our website at <http://www.burradoncommunityprimaryschool.co.uk/our-governing-body/>

Structure of the Governing Body Committees (2026/2027)

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Abrv.</u>	<u>Name of Chair</u>
Staffing, Finance, Premises & Health & Safety	S, F,P,H&S	Mrs Janice Sutherland
Curriculum and Communications	C&C	Mrs Susan Watts
Performance Management	PM	Mr Damian Ramsay

