



Birchington CE Primary School Church Distinctiveness

Terms of Reference for all Governor Committees

LEARNING AND GROWING; SAFE IN GOD'S LOVE

School Vision:

We strive to ensure that everyone in our happy, inclusive school flourishes and feels safe. Our peaceful learning environment and aspirational curriculum enables everyone to grow from their unique starting point, giving them a hopeful future. Following Jesus' example, we forgive, respect, love and care for everyone.

Purpose of all Governor Committees:

Whilst our Foundations Governors take the lead, all Governors are responsible for maintaining the Christian distinctiveness of our school.

Within all Governor Committees, our church distinctiveness is championed and the words of our Christian Vision, School Values and the meaning of the words within our chosen parable of 'The Lost Sheep' are at the forefront of our approach and our decision making.

All Committees are established to ensure that the everyday work of the school is driven by a contextually appropriate, theologically rooted Christian Vision for education that reflects its foundation as a Church school, meeting the needs of the school community and enabling people to flourish.

Governor Committees:

Please see Committee Chairs and Committee lists on the school website www.birchington-primary.com or held with the Governance Professional for names of specific Committee members.

Non-members may also be invited to offer specialist knowledge to the Committee.

Christian Character:

As a Governing Body we will ensure: -

- the school's everyday work is rooted in and driven by a context-specific theologically rooted Christian Vision
- the theologically rooted Christian Vision and associated values shape and drive School Plans
- policy and practice are reflected in the day-to-day life of the school
- the school's Admission Policy reflects the Christian Vision by being welcoming to all pupils with disabilities and learning difficulties, and by being inclusive of different faiths and of pupils from diverse backgrounds

- there is a robust and continuous self-evaluation process in place that involves the whole school community in evaluating the effectiveness as a Church school
- we support, monitor and encourage the development of links between the school, the Church and the wider community, including parents and carers, ensuring they are sustained and informed by the school's Christian Vision
- we consider curricular issues; how well the school's staff and Leaders apply the distinctive Christian Vision to ensure curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities meet the academic and spiritual needs of all learners
- there are opportunities across the curriculum for pupils to develop curiosity through questioning that helps them explore and articulate spiritual and ethical issues
- the Governing Body is informed of matters relating to the Christian character of the school and its development

Collective Worship:

As a Governing Body we will ensure: -

- Governors review the ways in which the theologically rooted Christian Vision and the foundation of the school shapes worship and spirituality in the school
- that Collective Worship has an impact on the whole school community through acts of worship that are inclusive, invitational and inspiring
- that Collective Worship raises aspirations, celebrates difference and encourages respect and dignity of all
- that Collective Worship offers opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- that Collective Worship is reflective of Anglican traditions, whilst offering opportunities for other traditions and liturgy to feature within acts of worship
- a wide range of members from the school community are involved in planning, monitoring and evaluating the impact of Collective Worship
- arrangements for members of the Governing Body to join school acts of worship for monitoring purposes
- Collective Worship provision meets statutory obligations

Religious Education:

As a Governing Body we will: -

- ensure the provision, profile and priority of religious education in all key stages reflects its place on the curriculum of a Church school

- consider how the religious education curriculum is effective
- ensure religious education reflects the Church of England Statement of Entitlement and its principles are established and adhered to
- ensure that RE is well resourced and that CPD for staff has an impact on effectiveness of the curriculum
- ensure RE provision meets statutory obligations

SIAMS: (*Statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools*)

As a Governing Body we will: -

- ensure that the recommendations from the previous inspection report have been addressed over time to the educational benefit of the pupils
- develop, monitor and question the schools SIAMS self-evaluation document and relevant action plans
- ensure there is an ongoing process of self-evaluation against the expectations of the SIAMS evaluation schedule
- ensure we are familiar with the contents and expectations of school Leaders within the SIAMS evaluation schedule

Agreed by Full Governing Body: 18th March 2024

Date of review: 18th March 2026