



Alderley Edge Community Primary School Annual Governance Statement January 2024

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of the Alderley Edge Community Primary School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic directions;
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.

Governance Arrangements – 2023/2024

The Governing Body of Alderley Edge Community Primary School was reconstituted in 2014 and is now made up of 2 staff governors (including the Headteacher), 2 elected Parent Governors, 1 Local Authority Governor and 8 Co-opted Governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body are people who, in the opinion of the Governing Body, have, based on an assessment of needs, the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school: on our Governing Body 2 of the Co-opted Governors are parents, the remaining 6 are members of the local community, one of whom is a teacher at Wilmslow High School.

The full Governing Body meets once each term and we also have a number of committees to consider different aspects of the school in greater detail. At Alderley Edge Community Primary School There are 3 main committees:

- Assets and Finance Committee (finance, premises, H&S, safeguarding and personnel matters)
- Teaching and Learning Committee (attendance, safeguarding curriculum, attainment and progress)
- Strategic Review Committee (oversight of the effectiveness of the Governing Board and the strategic direction of the school that falls outside other committees).

We also have committees that meet if required to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters.

The full list of Governors is as follows:

Alderley Edge Community Primary School – Governing Body

Governor	Category	Term of Office Expiry Date
Marc Asquith	Co-opted Governor	25 Mar 2024
Katie Bjerkan	Co-opted Governor	30 Jun 2025
Wendy Davies (Chair)	Co-opted Governor	27 Nov 2023
Helen Handley	Co-opted Governor	13 Jul 2027
Nick Hughes (Vice Chair)	Co-opted Governor	27 Jun 2024
Sheila Keegan	Local Authority Governor	18 Nov 2025
Hannah Lomas	Co-opted Governor	29 Mar 2027
Lesley Sym (Staff Governor)	Staff Governor	10 Oct 2025
Alex Shaw	Co-opted Governor	13 Jul 2027
Martin Smith	Co-opted Governor	29 Mar 2027
Lindsey Walsh (Head Teacher)	Head Teacher	N/A
Teddy Weyman	Co-opted Governor	24 Nov 2025
Tom Williams	Co-opted Governor	13 Jul 2027
Mike Lamb	Parent Governor	30 Oct 2023
Mark Ross	Parent Governor	30 Oct 2023

Attendance Record of Governors

Governors have excellent attendance at all committee meetings.

The detailed record of individual governors' attendance at meetings is shown below.

Alderley Edge Community Primary School – Governors’ Attendance Record for 2022 – 2023

Governor	Full Governing Body 3x FGB + 3x EFGB	Assets & Finance Committee	Teaching & Learning Committee	Strategic Review Committee
Marc Asquith	100%	67%	NA	NA
Wendy Davies	83%	100%	100%	100%
Nick Hughes	100%	NA	100%	100%
Sheila Keegan	50%	NA	67%	NA
Katie Bjerkan	67%	NA	67%	NA
Teddy Weyman	83%	100%	NA	NA
Lesley Sym (Staff Governor)	83%	NA	100%	NA
Lindsey Walsh (Head Teacher)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Tom Williams	100%	100%	NA	100%
Hannah Lomas	100%	100%	NA	NA
Martin Smith	100%	100%	NA	NA
Alex Shaw	100%	NA	NA	NA
Helen Handley	100%	NA	NA	NA

The work that was carried out by our committees and in the Governing Body

Disruption to the normal working of the school has continued throughout this academic year due to the national pandemic. Addressing the implications of this disruption to pupils, parents and staff has been a continual point of focus for the Governing Board. Staff and pupil wellbeing and pupil safeguarding have been central considerations in any decision making and mitigating the impact of school closures has been a priority when reviewing teaching and learning priorities.

Balancing the need to respond, often at short notice, to frequent changes in how the school has been required to operate, with maintaining progress on meeting the longer term development objectives of the school has proven particularly challenging. The Governing Board has worked with the senior leadership team to strike an appropriate balance between delivering effectively on short-term needs whilst progressing the more strategic goals of the school.

Progress on work necessary to allow the school to be in a position to convert to an academy as part of a Multi Academy Trust formed of local schools has stalled this year. The project was re-started in the summer term. The objective is that it is concluded in the next academic year.

The Teaching and Learning Committee has continued to work on ensuring that the school makes progress on its objectives to enhance the quality of education it provides, to improve pupil behaviours and attitude, to develop core leadership and management skills across all of the staff and to augment the early years and foundation studies work. Whilst visits into school have been limited, governors have continued to challenge on the detailed elements of the work being done in all of these core areas.

The Assets and Finance Committee has worked to ensure that the school has had the appropriate resources, including the finances, it requires to function effectively both short-term, and in the medium term when educational settings return to a more normal way of working. Health and safety has remained a key priority. We have continued to invest, within the limits imposed by our budget, to further improve the school's infrastructure and amenities.

The budget for this year and the 3-year financial projection has been approved. Whilst overall on-going funding for education is uncertain and the pandemic has had a significant negative impact on the school's finances in the past 2 years, careful management of resources and the use of available reserves, means that the school finances remain in an acceptable position. We will endeavour to ensure that additional costs incurred in equipping the school to open and function in the current environment are recovered.

Future plans for the Governors

We anticipate that this coming academic year will be less disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and that progress on meeting the more strategic objectives of the school will be accelerated. However, we will continue to ensure that the school is effectively supported with the resources to manage and mitigate the impact that the loss of time in school has had on pupils' education.

The next academic year will see a number of changes in personnel in teaching, governance and external leadership support roles. The effective integration of these individuals into their new roles, whilst maintaining the high quality of education the school provides, will be a key objective for the year.

The Governing Body will fast-track work on the detail to confirm the school's position with respect to whether or not we become an Academy Trust. We plan, that during the course of the next academic year, to agree a recommended way forward on this issue.

How you can contact the Governing Body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, via the school office. You can find out more about the Governing Body, what we do, and read minutes of the Governing Body meetings on the Governors' page of the school website. <https://www.aecps.org/page/governors/113539>

You can contact the Chair of Governors directly via a dedicated email address chair@aecps.org