



# Mile Oak Primary School

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## Mile Oak Primary School - Governor Report: Autumn Term 2025/26

### Strategy Meeting 3 September 2025

The governors meet with the Headteacher and other senior members of the school team at the beginning of each academic year to take stock of the last school year and to set the priorities for the coming year. We also have an annual training session on Safeguarding updates.

### Review of last year's outcomes

Last year had seen good levels of development in reception, with useful indications of which children would require additional support as they moved into year 1. The progressive curriculum where children choose and move through different task and activities had proved successful and would be retained into year 1.

Mile Oak primary has a strong focus on phonetics teaching. The governors were pleased to see the high levels of attainment in this basic step to fluent reading. The times table test had also shown an improvement in the numbers of children achieving high scores.

Pupils in the last year 6 had high levels of need but overall results were good. Reading and Writing SATS were above national. Combined RWM and GPS were all slightly lower than national. Maths had taken a dip after three years of improvement. A great deal of work had gone into preparing the pupils for transition to their chosen secondary school, and the school team felt all of them were ready for a positive start in year 7.

Progress was strong in all school years although it was generally lower in Maths. Governors were pleased at efforts to increase attainment for the most vulnerable pupils and those with special needs. They were keen to see more pupils achieving higher levels of attainment and good results in spelling and grammar.

Little Oaks, the school nursery was doing extremely well with improvements in the activities and early learning. The places were full and new staff had been appointed.

### Priorities for the 2025/26 school year

Governors agreed the priorities set out in the school development plan:

- Maintain the high quality of teaching and learning for all pupils.
- A refreshed focus on Maths across the years.
- Increased levels of higher attainment across the school and better results in grammar and spelling.
- A keen focus on attendance.
- A continued focus on PSHE and enrichment.

### Governor Subject Leads October

Each governor is attached to a number of subjects. In the middle of the autumn term we make contact with the subject lead to review curriculum development, progress of the children in this subject, and the continuous professional development of staff.

The notes are written up and reviewed at the Teaching and Learning Committee.



### **Business Committee 20 October and 8 December**

The Business Committee reviews the budget plan and monitors expenditure. It also monitors staff recruitment and welfare, health and safety, premises and capital expenditure.

The school is currently working to reduce expenditure in line with the licenced deficit agreement with the local authority. This is due to declining pupil numbers, in common with many schools in Brighton and Hove. Staffing is the main budget outlay and is within normal range for a primary school. The cost of supply teachers is high but is required when teachers are off with ill-health or training.

Little Oaks nursery is doing very well, covering all its costs and generating a surplus which will be helpful as numbers do vary during the year.

### **Teaching and Learning Committee 11 December**

The Teaching and Learning Committee monitors pupil progress and curriculum development.

In December they received a report outlining progress against the school priorities.

They heard about learning reviews of Maths, Oracy, Geography and Phonics. The governors reviewed progress data plus feedback from pupils which was very positive.

There was also an update report on the Internal Intervention Space which was proving effective in providing a tailored curriculum for very needy children and had eased the amount of dysregulated behaviour.

Little Oaks nursery was doing well and now had additional staff in place. There are plans to improve the outdoor space.

### **Full Governing Body 16 December**

Governors received a briefing on the new Ofsted Inspection Framework and a report from the School Partnership Adviser (SPA). There were updates on progress against the School Development Plan, an updated School Evaluation and information on behaviour, attendance and safeguarding. Jen Wilks presented information on the Belonging Project led by the University of Sussex.

Helen Duggan was appointed as a new governor.

The governors were pleased with the overall progress against the school priorities and the very favourable feedback from the SPA.

Rosalind Turner  
Chair of Governors  
Mile Oak Primary School

