

Abbots Farm Infant School & Pre-School

Governing Body newsletter



Who are the governing body?



Schools and Academies in Warwickshire need skilled and motivated volunteers who are committed to improving education and making a positive difference to children's futures.

More information about our governors can be found on our website:

[Governors | Abbots Farm Infant and Preschool
\(abbotsfarm-inf.org\)](http://abbotsfarm-inf.org)

The governing body

What do they do?

Governors have three core functions:

1. **Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.**
2. **Hold the leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.**
3. **Oversee the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.**



Their role is to support and challenge the Headteacher to ensure rigorous attention is paid to raising and maintaining standards in line with both school plans and government requirements.

All governors are expected to visit the school to see how it operates and become familiar with staff and procedures. They also attend meetings, including full governing board meetings.

2024/25 successes

School priorities

Governors worked closely with the head teacher last year in thinking strategically about how to raise standards of across the school.

Outcomes for last years priorities were:

PRIORITY 1

To reduce the gap between vulnerable groups and their peers

- *There has been considerable impact through the Raising Attainment of Disadvantaged Youngster (RADY) project. Pupils in key stage 1, including the disadvantaged and those with SEND, made good progress.*
- *There has been an improvement in Writing outcomes for children receiving pupil premium (PP) funds alongside outcomes for non-PP children being maintained.*

PRIORITY 2

To continue to improve quality of writing

- *Outcomes at the end of KS1 were above both national and Warwickshire outcomes.*

2024/25 successes

Other school priorities

PRIORITY 3

To strengthen the opportunities for all stakeholders to have a voice

- *Our parent survey identified positive outcomes overall. Of particular note, was a significant increase in parents agreeing that the school deals quickly and effectively with unacceptable behaviour when it occurs.*
- *More family learning events took place which were well received, and there was more engagement in the PTA.*
- *Our staff survey was very positive and saw improvements in overall wellbeing scores compared to last year.*
- *The pupil survey indicated Year 2 enjoyed being play leaders.*

PRIORITY 4

To maximise quality interactions with children

- *Pupils engaged in high quality talk which had a positive impact on their writing standards.*
- *The Talk partner approach had a positive impact on pupils' confidence and learning.*

Attendance

Attendance

Schools are required to have a strong focus on attendance and punctuality so that all pupils benefit from the education and experiences the school offers.

We continually review the overall attendance of the school and different groups, and will be challenging and supporting leaders to further improve attendance this year.

School and families will be aware of expectations around attendance, and note that holidays in term time will not be authorised.

[Attendance, Punctuality and Medical Information | Abbots Farm Infant and Preschool \(abbotsfarm-inf.org\)](http://abbotsfarm-inf.org)



Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility

Governing bodies have a strategic leadership responsibility for their school's safeguarding arrangements.

We ensure there are appropriate policies and procedures in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children's welfare.

We ensure school has a Designated Safeguarding lead and other staff to support the lead and that all staff receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training.

Our designated officers are:

Jeanette Lovejoy

Sarah Bull

Jenna Hetherington

Rebecca Hope

When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff will always act in the best interests of the child.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

**CHILD ABUSE HAPPENS
IN WARWICKSHIRE**

The logo for the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. It is a circular emblem with a green border. Inside the circle, the text "WARWICKSHIRE" is at the top, "Safeguarding" is in the middle, and "Children PARTNERSHIP" is at the bottom. Below the text is a stylized graphic of colorful dots in blue, orange, and green.

NOTICE THINGS!

Urgent concerns

If you have an urgent child protection concern call Family Connect on **01926 414144**. Lines are open:
Monday to Thursday - 8.30am – 5:30pm Friday - 8.30am – 5:00pm

Out of hours

If you have an emergency outside of usual office hours, please contact the emergency duty team immediately on: **01926 886922**

Emergency contact

If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the police immediately on: 999



Parking



77% of parents last year raised concerns about parking issues at the start and end of the school day.

Governors explored options available and were advised that a pedestrian crossing does not meet the council's criteria for one.

Cllr Roodhouse has been asked to obtain a work order to restore all the bollards that have been removed.

Signage linked to the zig zag lines around the school will be improved and then be enforceable **Mon-Fri 8am—5pm** to prohibit stopping on markings.

Council officers will monitor compliance, engage with drivers and parents, and raise awareness about the importance of safe and legal parking near school.

The police offer information on parking outside schools
[Parking outside schools | Police.uk](#)

We welcome your support with this.

School improvement

2025/26 priorities

Governors have worked closely with the head teacher in thinking strategically about how to raise standards further this year.

The school priorities will be:

PRIORITY 1

To embed inclusive and equitable practices.

PRIORITY 2

2a. To improve handwriting.

2b. Strengthen fine and gross motor skills in EYFS.

PRIORITY 3

To strengthen the application of phonics for spelling.

PRIORITY 4

To strengthen subject leadership.

PRIORITY 5

To increase attendance rates for vulnerable pupils.

And finally...

Overall, strong leadership and governance contribute significantly to the school's success.

We know that it is a team effort and we value the role everyone has to play in the success of our school.

Our governing body pass on our thanks to:

- *staff for all their hard work last year*
- *governors for their time at meetings, visits to school and training attended*
- *our families for your ongoing support and engagement with school*



We look forward to working together to ensure ongoing successes and improvements for our community.