

Statement of Governing Board effectiveness 2023-2024

John Jamieson East SILC Governing Body

Chair: Stuart McFarlane

Co-Vice Chairs: Russell Trigg and Louisa Smedley

The constitution of the governing body is:

- Executive Principal
- 1 x Local Authority (LA) governor, recommended by the LA and approved by the governing body
- 2 x parent governors, formally elected through a ballot of parents unless the election is uncontested
- 9 x co-opted governors, nominated and appointed by the governing body
- 1 staff governor, formally elected by staff employed at school
- x foundation governors, appointed by the foundation (usually for church schools or trusts)
- 1 associate member, appointed by the governing body (can vote in committee meetings)

The governing body operates with the following committees:

- **Resources Committee** - responsible for staffing including the SENCO being suitably qualified, performance management, finance, staff voice, staff wellbeing and GDPR compliance. **Committee Chair:** Emma Sidebotham
- **Curriculum and Welfare Committee (CaWC)** - responsible for the quality of education including ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum is being taught, target setting, assessment and outcomes, behaviour, safeguarding, attendance, children's spiritual moral social and cultural development, children, parent voice, equality and diversity, extra-curricular activities, cluster and other partnerships and the quality of teaching and ensuring that the Governing Board is represented at school improvement discussions. **Committee Chair:** Russell Trigg
- **Health & Safety and Premises Committee** - responsible for property management, health and safety and risk management. **Committee Chair:** Stuart McFarlane
- **Pay Review Committee** – responsible for ensuring the implementation of the school Pay Policy and Teacher Appraisal Policy.
- **Pay Appeal Committee** – responsible for hearing pay appeals and ensuring a fair and proper process has been followed.

Current and recent (in the last 12 months) governors and business/other interests declared are provided in the table below. Governors and associate members, if appointed, are reminded that they should declare any changes as and when they occur.

Name of governor	Category of governor and committees served	Date appointed and term of office	Relevant business/personal interests	Any other educational establishments governed	Relationships with the school staff including spouses, partners and relatives
Jack Clark	Co-opted governor. Curriculum and Welfare and Health & Safety and Premises Committees	12/02/15 – 04/07/24			
Colin Douro	Co-opted governor. Curriculum and Welfare Committee	28/09/23-03/07/24			
Lisa Dunn	Staff governor. Health & Safety and Premises, and Resources committees	14/02/19 – 13/02/27	Works for the East SILC		
Caroline Foster	Co-opted governor. Curriculum and Welfare Committee	06/02/20-31/08/24			
Joshua Gardner	Co-opted governor. Curriculum and Welfare and Resources Committee	28/09/23-28/09/27			
Sharon Hamilton	Local Authority representative. Health & Safety and Premises Committee	17/03/20-16/03/24			
Gavin Hosford	Co-opted governor. Curriculum and Welfare Committee and Resources Committee	28/09/23-09/07/24			
Amanda Jahdi	Associate governor. (Note – not required or expected to attend scheduled meetings)	28/09/23-31/08/24			

Stuart McFarlane	Co-opted governor. Resources and Health & Safety and Premises Committees	01/07/17 – 30/06/25			
Louise Quinn	Executive Principal	28/09/24 – ongoing	Works for the East SILC		
Emma Sidebotham	Co-opted governor. Resources Committee	27/02/18 – 26/02/26			
Louisa Smedley	Parent governor. Curriculum and Welfare and Health & Safety and Premises Committees.	30/06/22 - 29/06/26			
Gwyneth Stephen	Co-opted governor. (Note – attends Health & Safety and Premises Committee as a contributor)	30/06/22 - 29/06/26	Works for the East SILC		
Russell Trigg	Co-opted governor. Resources and Curriculum and Welfare Committees.	08/02/16 - 07/02/24			
Yvonne Winteler	Parent governor. Curriculum and Welfare Committee	30/06/22 - 29/06/26			

NB: Some governors may have served on the governing board for a longer period than stated.

John Jamieson East SILC Governing Board

Attendance List: 2023/2024

Y - in attendance

N - not in attendance and no apologies received/accepted

A - apologies received and accepted

X - not in post/not a member

The following is an attendance record for individual governors at meetings of the full governing body and committee meetings.

Full governing board meetings (FGB)

	FGB 28/09/23	FGB 07/12/23	FGB 02/05/24	FGB 04/07/24
Jack Clark	Y	A	Y	Y
Colin Douro	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lisa Dunn	Y	Y	Y	Y
Caroline Foster	Y	Y	Y	Y
Joshua Gardner	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sharon Hamilton	A	Y	Y	Y
Gavin Hosford	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stuart McFarlane	Y	Y	Y	Y

Louise Quinn	Y	Y	Y	Y
Emma Sidebotham	A	Y	Y	Y
Louisa Smedley	Y	A	Y	Y
Gwyneth Stephen	Y	Y	Y	Y
Russell Trigg	A	A	Y	Y
Yvonne Winteler	Y	Y	Y	Y

	Health & Safety and Premises 03/11/23	Resources 21/11/23	CaWC 21/03/24	Health & Safety and Premises 05/02/24	Resources 05/03/24	CaWC 21/03/24	Health & Safety and Premises 23/05/24	CaWC 06/06/24	Resources 18/06/24
Jack Clark	A	X	A	A	X	A	A	A	X
Colin Douro	X	X	A	X	X	A	X	A	X
Lisa Dunn	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	X	Y
Caroline Foster	X	X	A	X	X	Y	X	Y	X
Joshua Gardner	X	Y	A	X	Y	Y	X	A	A
Sharon Hamilton	A	X	X	A	X	X	A	X	X
Gavin Hosford	X	A	Y	X	A	A	X	A	N
Stuart McFarlane	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	X	Y

Louise Quinn	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y
Emma Sidebotham	X	Y	X	X	Y	X	X	X	Y
Louisa Smedley	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	X
Gwyneth Stephen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Russell Trigg	X	A	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	A
Yvonne Winteler	X	X	Y	X	X	A	X	A	X

SECTION 2

Annual Governance Statement for the John Jamieson East SILC Governing Body – 2023-2024

1. Overview

The Governing Board conducts its business to take account of the three roles of the governing boards as outlined in the Governors' Handbook:

- I. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- II. Holding the Executive Principal to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- III. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The day-to-day management of the school is the responsibility of the Executive Principal and the Senior Leadership Team. The Governing Board welcomed Louise Quinn as the new Executive Principal to the school following the retirement of Diane Reynard after many years service to the school.

The Governing Board also ensures that the school complies fully with statutory safeguarding procedures. All staff signed a record to confirm they had read Part 1 of the DfE statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education". The Governing Board has familiarised itself with the document and work with the Safeguarding Lead in school to complete the annual safeguarding audit.

1. The composition of the Governing Board

There are currently three vacancies on the Governing Board. There were three resignations at the end of the academic year, two were as a result of work commitments and the third was well deserved retirement by a governor who had served on the Board for almost 40 years. Governors completed an updated skills audit which was reviewed at the May governing body meeting which confirmed that most areas of the knowledge and skills required were covered by the current membership. We have governors who have a clear understanding of the school budget and support in maximising the funding for the school, as well as being proficient in analysing data. The audit will help in prioritising training for the new academic year. Steps are in place to fill the three vacancies.

2. Meetings of the governing body and attendance

The full governing body has met four times during the year; all meetings were clerked by a trained professional clerk. There are also three governing body committees that have met three times during the year and which have delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Governing Board.

Due to a number of factors, mainly involving work and family commitments and health issues, attendance at meetings during the last year has been below expectations overall. Apologies for non-attendance are considered on an individual basis; governors are aware through the code of

conduct that non-attendance, which includes apologies not being accepted, will result in the removal of a governor six months from the date of first non-attendance. The governing body hopes and expects that attendance will improve this coming year.

3. The remit of the governing body and its committees

The overall aims for 2023-2024 were:

- Driven by strong governance and effective leadership, the school organisation seeks to secure consistency and quality on all our sites and partnerships through central policies, procedures and QA leading to a strong and resilient structure.
- East SILC delivers an ambitious and innovative curriculum, recognising each child as a powerful learner, and all adults can learn and develop.

The 2023-24 School Improvement Plan prioritised the following areas:

1. Quality of Education

- a) The curriculum is implemented effectively across the school (continued from 22/23) Evidenced through a range of different information sources including robust quality assurance processes.
- b) Preparation for Adulthood is delivered effectively across the East SILC evidenced through a range of different information sources including robust quality assurance processes.
- c) Oracy strategies are implemented effectively across all sites

2. Behaviour and Attitudes

- a) Conduct a review of systems and processes for managing pupil behaviour at all sites leading to the development of an agreed approach which is consistently applied across the East SILC.
- b) A programme of early intervention is in place that supports staff to identify pupil areas of need as early as possible in their school career.

3. Personal development

- a) PSHE - To identify the fundamentals of the PSHE curriculum, bespoke to the individual pupils at each site, to encompass both the preventative and responsive curriculum.
- b) Consistency - To promote consistency in shared values, culture and ethos across all school sites.
- c) Investors in Pupils - To achieve revalidation of the charter marks for Investors in Pupils.
- d) Healthy Schools - To achieve revalidation for the charter marks for Healthy Schools.

4. Leadership and Management

a) Parent Champions / Parental engagement

- To review the impact of parent/carers workshops and further embed targeted workshops ensuring parents/carers have the opportunity to access support from in-school professionals and external agencies.
- To further develop social opportunities, event organising and fundraising through the parent and carer champion group/PTA.

b) In light of DFE's decision to allocate the John Jamieson site to phase 3 Building Schools for the Future (potentially 2027/2028) re-instate refurbishment plan that provides improved learning spaces for pupils..

c) Establish a new designated 16+ provision following a move from the current Brigshaw setting.

The Governing Board monitored the School Improvement Plan through the committee meetings and took account of the school's internal monitoring of pupil progress and attainment, changes to the assessment of pupils and the curriculum as well as the most recent Ofsted report. The outcomes of the evaluation of the School Improvement Plan has informed the priorities for 2024-2025.

4. The effectiveness and impact of the Governing Board 2023-2024

The most recent school was inspection of the school by Ofsted was in March 2022 when we retained the status of 'Good'. We were very pleased with the outcome as this supported the governors' evaluation of the school. It also confirmed that the children and young people enjoy attending the school, and parents and carers are appreciative of the support they receive from staff. There were areas identified where the school could do better and these are incorporated into the School Improvement Plan which was monitored by governors.

Impact:

1. The Governing Board's statutory duties were met, for example in respect of child protection, and governor visits reported by the governors with responsibility for Safeguarding.
2. The pandemic had a serious impact on the school and continued to do so during the year particularly in relation to staff absences.
3. A significant challenge facing the school is the question of accommodation. The age of the building on the John Jamieson site means it will require a rebuild but this is relatively low on the Leeds City Council priority list. As a result, the site needs constant attention and repairs where necessary leading to class disruptions on occasions. In addition new premises have been found for the school year starting in September 2024 to accommodate pupils who previously attended Brigshaw school under an arrangement which has now come to an end. The Governing Board are proud of all the staff in school for the way they have risen to the many challenges they have faced this year.
4. The school has expanded considerably in recent years and Ofsted commented on how well the three main sites and the partnerships operate as a cohesive whole. In addition the school has developed closer working with the Medical Needs Teaching Service which operates under the oversight of the Governing Board under the terms of a Service Level Agreement with the local authority. All of this has been no mean achievement and has involved a lot of collaboration and hard work. The governors are working with the new Executive Principal towards ensuring there is a sustainable staffing structure in place to continue the professional support and improvement for all pupils who attend the school and to make sure their individual needs are met.