



BROOKLAND INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL AND JUNIOR SCHOOL GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

2025-2026



A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

The Governors would like to wish the whole Brookland community a lovely summer, and to thank you all for your support during this busy academic year.

The Governing Body works closely with both headteachers and staff to ensure all children are safe and flourishing, with their individual needs met. This year, we say a grateful thanks to departing governors James Clare and David Lee, and welcome new governors Sophie Diner, Charles Bobroff and Emilia Arvstrand.

Contact Chair, Laura Pincus:
chair@brooklandinf.barnetmail.net

CURRICULUM

We updated policies on effective learning, teaching, assessment, curriculum, handwriting and home learning, while monitoring quality of teaching and learning through data analysis, pupil and staff feedback, the Curriculum Tea and subject link visits.

The KS1 and KS2 2 PHSE curriculum was aligned with new national guidance. We continue to review Department of Education information regarding the new National Curriculum review.

PERSONNEL

The Personnel committee – which reviews policies related to school staff, including professional development, appraisal, and wellbeing – met three times. We reviewed the updated Employment Rights Act 2025, focusing on changes to flexible working practices, leave, and other staff protections. We also discussed how school staff can safely and effectively use AI to enhance educational provision.

On behalf of the Governing Body, we would like to express our huge thanks to all teaching and non-teaching staff for their continued hard work and dedication.

STRATEGY

This committee – committee chairs, the Chair, Vice Chair, and both Headteachers – reviewed the Schools' development plans, assessed risks across the site, examined audit and training needs, and continued to embed the new Ofsted framework. Next year, our priorities are to further improve governors' subject knowledge, and continue to ensure inclusion remains at the heart of all we do.

PREMISES

This year we updated school uniform, health & safety and data protection policies, and continued to work to integrate the new heat pump. After a successful roof replacement programme last summer, the next stage will commence during the summer holidays, giving the kitchen a much-needed new roof. We are incredibly lucky to offer a school with such beautiful, well-maintained grounds; much of this is owed to our brilliant site manager, James Flanagan, who works tirelessly behind the scenes, often in the face of plumbing and electrical adversities.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding met termly, covering policies including Child Protection, Online Safety, Behaviour, Intimate Care, and local risks. Through visits and safeguarding walks, governors monitored reporting procedures and spoke to staff and children to ensure everyone feels safe and supported. We reviewed changes to the Department for Education's "Keeping Children Safe in Education" guidance. Protecting Brookland children is everyone's responsibility, so the entire governing board completed training in Cyber Security, Allergy & Anaphylaxis Awareness, and General Safeguarding.

FINANCE

We met regularly to ensure careful management of the schools' finances. This year familiar challenges, including rising costs and reduced funding, placed added pressure on budgets. The Infant School ended the year in deficit; the Juniors achieved an in-year surplus.

Spending has been managed thoughtfully, with a focus on supporting pupil learning and wellbeing. Alongside school leaders, we scrutinise expenditure to ensure every pound has the greatest impact.

We are grateful to parents for their generous voluntary contributions, which make a real difference to school life, and remain committed to keeping both schools on a stable, sustainable footing to provide the best environment for pupils.

