



As Co-Chairs of the Governing Body, we are pleased to share an update on another successful year at our wonderful school. Throughout this year, our focus has been on creating opportunities for our students and staff to flourish together, by creating a purposeful environment where positive relationships and well-being allow great teaching and learning outcomes for all.

We are incredibly grateful to those who have volunteered in various capacities—whether managing the road closures for safer drop-offs and pick-ups or accompanying classes on trips and activities. Special thanks go to our PTA, whose dedication and tireless support have enriched school life and provided invaluable resources for students and teachers.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to nurture a thriving school community.

Laura Kirsop & Nigel Moorhouse, Co-Chairs of Governors

What do governors do?

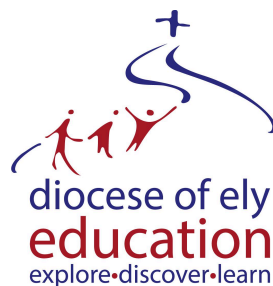
The day-to-day operations of the school are under the remit of the school leadership team, led by the Headteacher. Governors take a strategic overview of the school and monitor school performance. Our governors have three defined roles:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organization and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Our school is also a voluntary-aided school. This means that a foundation or trust (in our case, Church Schools of Cambridge) owns the buildings, inputs a small proportion of the capital costs for the school, and whose appointments must form a majority on the school's governing body. Our governing body is the employer for the staff and sets admissions criteria.

Who's Who

THE CHURCH
SCHOOLS OF
CAMBRIDGE



Church Schools of Cambridge (CSoC) provides facilities and targeted support to four Church of England primary schools in Cambridge – St Luke's, St Paul's, St Philip's, and Park Street. It provides additional targeted funding for specific school projects, along with making other relevant grants to the wider community of Cambridge and providing a range of RE-related workshops and resources. In previous years, they have offered teaching support for catch-up, as well as supporting capital costs of the school.

The **Diocese of Ely Education Directorate** provides leadership, support, and guidance in the Christian ethos, to enable a strong sense of community through learning, love, and leadership for our children and families, of all faiths and none. Our Christian vision is the rock on which our values stand, enabling all children to flourish.

Life in all its fullness

"I have come so you may have life in all its fullness." John 10:10

The **Local Education Authority (LEA)** is Cambridgeshire County Council, whose role includes providing accessible advice and support for things like staff training and development and all aspects of the curriculum including special educational needs. The LEA also advises on things like school management, behavior management, the development of school policies, and liaison with other community bodies. They also distribute the funding for the school from the Department for Education (DfE). Our school also employs the LEA to support admissions, raise standards, and other services

Vision, Ethos, and Strategy

The vision and ethos of the school is informed by the Church of England's Vision for Education (2016), which is deeply Christian, with Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness' at its heart. In line with the Church of England's role as the established Church, their vision is for the common good of the whole community.



- Educating for wisdom, knowledge, and skills: enabling discipline, confidence, and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.
- Educating for hope and aspiration: enabling healing, repair, and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.
- Educating for community and living well together: a core focus on relationships, participation in communities, and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.
- Educating for dignity and respect: the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.

Vision



Our vision has been developed based on the Parable of the Mustard Seed:

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches. [Mark 4. 30-32, Matthew 13. 31-32, Luke 13. 18-19]

Park Street C of E Primary School is a small school that has a large effect on those who come here. We teach and we learn that small deeds and individual beings can have large and consequential effects on the world in which we live. The mustard seed of Park Street grows to become a sustaining, protecting, and invigorating environment for all who 'lodge' here, before they travel onwards, taking all they have learned and experienced with them.

Ethos

As a Church of England school, we aim:

- to be a safe, supportive, and caring school which provides a nurturing environment for every member of the community;
- to offer a breadth of opportunity to enable each child to fulfill their potential;
- to be inclusive, celebrating the strengths and differences of our diverse community;
- to have high aspirations for our children, inspiring creativity and a lifelong love of learning.

Values



Our values were chosen by our children:

- Honesty & Respect
- Friendship & Kindness
- Learning & Fun

Strategy

Our Key Priorities for 2023-24 were inspired by the book 'Flourishing Together', a Christian vision for students, educators, and schools, by Andy Wolfe and Lynn E. Swaner.

We have been working hard on the Christian Distinctiveness in the school, and preparing for a future SIAMS inspection (the regime for Anglican and Methodist Churches). There has been focus on courageous advocacy, the RE curriculum, and Collective Worship.

We have also been looking at including creative opportunities within the curriculum, to enhance children's love of learning. While the National Curriculum is quite fixed in terms of how much of each subject needs to be taught, and what elements are taught, we do want to make their primary years enjoyable.

Our attendance has been good on the whole (compared to national statistics), which is a testament to our staff making school a welcoming place.

Educational Performance

Our staff and students have worked very hard over the past year and our external assessments this year have been excellent. National figures are no longer published in some areas, but we have included these in brackets where available for 2024.

Key Stage 1

% reaching expected standard	
Reading	65%
Writing	59%
Mathematics	59%

Key Stage 2

% reaching expected standard	
Reading	86% (74%)
Writing	79% (72%)
Mathematics	100% (73%)
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	100% (72%)
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths	71% (61%)

% reaching greater depth

Reading	29%
Writing	0%
Mathematics	24%

% reaching greater depth

Reading	43%
Writing	21%
Mathematics	21%
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	57%
Combined Reading, Writing & Maths	14%

The percentage of Year 1 who achieved 32/40 to pass the **phonics screening test** was 80% (80%)

The average score in the Year 4 **multiplication tables check** was 22 out of 25

The percentage of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children reaching a **good level of development** was 69% (67%)

School Finances

Last Year: We managed to again outperform our budget, thanks to the diligent work of the school, and the support of the Diocese, Church Schools of Cambridge and the PTA. While this year proved much better than expected, some of this is down to the year-end accounts having to close a little earlier than usual due to changes in the Local Authority systems.

Item	Budgeted	Actual
Total Income	762,996	817,225
Total Expenditure	810,695	805,720
Revenue Balance This Year	-47,669	11,505
Reserves	78,149	89,655

This Year: As always, we are facing constant challenges with funding, with national teacher and support staff pay rises not being fully-funded by central government, and no funding for increases in general spending such as gas and electricity. This has happened year-on-year for many years, and seems set to continue. In addition, the number of children starting primary school is getting lower each year, so all primary schools are feeling pressure. However, we have managed better than a lot of schools, who are now in deficit. This is down to good management, strong support from our wider community, and being able to maintain the number of pupils.

Next Year and Beyond: With falling numbers of pupils of primary age, many schools are being forced to cut staffing and classes, as the bulk of funding is per pupil. All of this is detrimental to the education of children. Thankfully, we have been able to maintain numbers at our school, thanks to our reputation, and parents spreading the word. As mentioned above, many schools are in a precarious position, but we have some reserves and have successfully obtained additional funding, but we still need to be extremely careful.

Hellos and Goodbyes

Laura Kirsop was elected as parent governor to replace Catherine Johnson, who has returned to us as a Foundation governor.

Governor Info

For further information on who our governors are, and general governance information, visit our page on the school's website at: <https://parkstreet.cambs.sch.uk/governors/>