

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 1 of 7

GOVERNING BODY MEETING

Wednesday 9 July – 4.00pm - Crosby Ravensworth Village Hall

Board members:

Barbara Wallis	(Chair)	(BW)	Foundation Governor
George Griffiths	(Vice Chair)	(GG)	Foundation Governor
Duncan Priestley	-	(DP)	Staff Governor, ex officio
Susan Pattinson	-	(SP)	Staff Governor
Tom Cripps	-	(TC)	Foundation Governor
Ayshka Sené	-	(AS)	Foundation Governor
Anna Lea	-	(AL)	Foundation Governor
Naomi Callaghan	-	(NC)	Parent Governor
Stephen Tudway	-	(ST)	Foundation Governor, ex officio
Neil McCall	-	(NMCC)	Local Authority Governor
Kate Townend	-	(KT)	Parent Governor

Others attending:

Abi Ruehorn-Hyde (Clerk) (ARH)

MINUTES

In Attendance, Barbara Wallis (BW), Duncan Priestley (DP), Susan Pattinson (SP), Ayshka Sene (AS), Naomi Callaghan (NC), Stephen Tudway (ST), Neil McCall (NMCC), Kate Townend (KT), Anna Lea (AL), Tom Cripps remotely (TC).

1. PRAYER

ST offered a prayer to open the meeting.

2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1. Apologies: GG, apologies accepted.

2.2. Vote to approve minutes of

➤ Full Governing Board – 25 March 2025 – all approved

2.3 Declarations of interests

Nothing new arising.

2.4 Matters arising (not included elsewhere on the agenda)

None.

2.5 Questions to Committees:

2.5.1 Questions to Resources, 13 June 2025

No questions for resources.

Action: ARH & TC to get together to look at monthly reports.

2.5.2 Questions to Pupil Progress, 11 June 2025:

TC noted that in British values “British” and “English” values had been used interchangeably. AS did look but could not find anything in the documents.

Action: TC to look at the document further and feedback to ARH

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 2 of 7

3 MAIN BUSINESS

3.1 Ofsted inspection and outcomes

Recent Ofsted inspection had a resoundingly wonderful result, said BW. DP also extremely happy with the results and as a school there are two main points that will be addressed in the SEF. 1) Assessment ideas in the school and how best to incorporate the pupils' voice. 2) Phonics, EYFS reading and teacher training in this area.

3.2 Questions on Head Teacher's Report

DP pointed out that the new website will go live tomorrow.

General discussion about the recent Ofsted inspection and subsequent report. DP noted that we were particularly commended on our attendance. One of the deep dives was into art, Ofsted again were very complimentary. SP said that she has heard about an upcoming art exhibition at Rheged that is to be aimed at children, she will keep an ear out for more information.

Future numbers of the school discussed and how the teachers and other staff members are preparing for the increased class sizes. The wall will be knocked down over the summer holidays, teachers and other staff have been moving music equipment and displays to get ready for the work. SP & JC will also be coming in over the summer holidays when the project is complete to ensure the

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 3 of 7

new space is ready for the pupils. Once the project is completed the next step would be to look at getting a concertina partition in the room.

All this is essential as the Robins class will double from 6 to 12 come September.

SATs results have recently come out with the pupils getting 100% pass in everything, DP was extremely pleased especially looking at how 1 pupil in particular had progressed from their KS1 assessment. Congratulations from all Governors.

The school is set to become one of just three lead local music hubs in the county.

General discussion about TH and all the training that she has been doing, and how keen she is to develop new areas of expertise.

The school has recently had to change the website and the MIS. The governors recognise what pressure this puts on staff especially DP & ARH.

Discussion around the announcement from the Local Authority (LA) that they are abolishing the surplus clawback rule.

DP wanted to mention how grateful the school is to Martin Gill, he maintains the grass and does a lot of handy work for the school. Governors also pass on thanks to Martin.

3.3 School Development Plan (SDP) and SEF update

The SDP will be getting reworked in light of the Ofsted inspection.

DP asked all governors to be mindful when working with a live document that you would need internet for any changes that have been made to have been saved.

BW said this will become a standing item at FGB and it will be a governor's own responsibility to check their work has saved.

3.4 Pupil attendance

Very good levels of attendance.

3.5 SEND report from SENCo

BW was very impressed with the most recent report from the SENCo.

AS questioned why we have no pupils with EHCPs. BW explained that there is simply none needed at this time.

DP added that Ofsted had no recommendations for SEND.

3.6 HT AGA opportunity

An opportunity has arisen for DP to apply to become an LA advisor to other heads in the area, a role that could require 30 days' work over the school year. He has applied for the AGA role and has been shortlisted for an interview.

There was a discussion about how this would work practically for the school and for DP.

3.7 Update on potential pay uplift for head

Agreed that DP could stay in the room as this is just a report with no outcomes or decision.

BW has spoken with both Capita and the LA. The AGA opportunity could offer capacity for an uplift. ST has done some good work on the terms of reference for the pay committee and the HT appraisal committee. There was still one vacancy on the HT appraisal committee, ST volunteered and everyone agreed.

Pay committee – NC, BW, TC, ST

HT appraisal committee – ST, TC, GG

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 4 of 7

TC did raise that he had some concerns about what powers the pay committee would have. That they could incur unbudgeted and unaffordable expenses. ST & DP explained that pay rises are not something that the school or governing board can refuse, unless the member of staff is not performing properly. DP does performance management annually with all teachers.

TC was unsure of what DP proposed, but that it was put into the budget. Does the head pay fit somewhere else.

BW answered yes that's the HT appraisal committee and the recommendations get ratified at FGB.

BW recommends that the HT appraisal committee meet as soon as possible to get pay uplift and latest budget in for December.

3.8 Votes on Terms of Reference for Pay Committee and HT Appraisal Committee; actions required

Pay committee – Passed unanimously

Head Teachers appraisal committee – Passed unanimously

3.9 Ways to share burden of policy updating; vote on whether to automatically adopt LA policies

BW had said that she would look into this more over the summer. ST suggested that there could be a different way to do the policies completely. In essence it would separate the policies from the procedures. Interesting conversation on this topic. There will be a working party made up of BW, KT, AL & ST. They will explore this area further and speak to Kym Allan before reporting back. The aim would be to lessen the reading required by governors by splitting strategic and operational policy content.

3.10 Staff Welfare, Standards and Morale

ST has nothing significant to report on this. It is coming around to the time where the next welfare survey should be going out, but after the last survey (2023) presented no new findings, the board agreed it would not be a good use of staff time to ask them to complete another survey.

SP said that what does really help the staff workload is when governors come into school. Whether that be reading with the pupils or helping in some other way. That's what makes a difference.

DP continued that with it being such a small cohort of staff and with how approachable everyone is it easier to monitor staff welfare. We do have staff insurance that offers employee support and assistance.

4 LINK GOVERNOR REPORTS

4.1 Link Governor updates:

- Church

Andi and Ruth have been doing an art lunch club that has been a success. Other than that ST and Ruth have been in school several times and the EYFS have been enjoying JAM.

- Reading and Literacy

No report.

- Numeracy

No report.

Action: Change to Maths for next FGB. BW & ARH

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 5 of 7

- Filtering and Monitoring
Everything up to date.

- Health and Safety
Everything up to date.

- Governor Training and New Governor Induction
New governors inducted. KT interjected that she feels new governors would benefit from a document that explains the basics of what's what and where it is found online. BW appreciated the feedback and they will collaborate on a single document for new governors.

Action: BW & KT to discuss this.

- Special Educational Needs and Disability
Already covered

- Safeguarding
Nothing to report.

- Online Safety
Nothing to report.

- Personal Social Health Education
Nothing to report.

- Single Equality Link Governor
Policy to ratify.

- Emotional Resilience
AL to meet with TH

5 STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES AND GOVERNING BODY MATTERS

5.1 Status of Governing Body

Good healthy number currently on board, could technically have one more.

5.1.1 Governance health check

A disappointing response. Some governors said that it was unhelpful and time consuming. BW thanks GG for all her efforts, however, the governance health check will not be continued in this form.

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 6 of 7

5.2 Succession Planning - chair

BW has been approved to be a governor for another 4 years. Said she will carry on as chair for now. Though her term of office as chair concludes in December; her tenure will need to be voted on at the next FGB. Barbara would like to delegate some of the chair work. AL agreed to take on SEND link governor role and AS will do equality.

DP thanked BW and encouraged her to delegate more

5.3 Governors' Action Plan

To be looked at in light of refreshed SDP, after the summer holidays.

5.4 Governor Skills Audit (on website) and Training; GG's proposal that all governors complete NGA safeguarding module was agreed.

Governors all therefore asked to complete the NGA safeguarding module before the next FGB meeting.

Action: For safeguarding ARH to confirm ST log in for NGA.

Action: For skills audit ARH to find ST and email NMCC.

Action: All governors to complete the NGA safeguarding module

5.5 Monitoring Visits

All governors please do your visits by November's FGB meeting.

DP thinks monitoring visits should happen more often in general.

5.6 Governors' summer newsletter

Action: NMCC write the end of year newsletter for parents.

6

POLICIES TO BE RATIFIED

6.1 Policies to be ratified:

- Equality objectives – Agreed, unanimously.
- Whole School Behaviour – Agreed, unanimously.
- Health & Safety - Agreed, unanimously.
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions - Agreed, unanimously.
- Flood - Agreed, unanimously.
- Behaviour principles - Agreed, unanimously.

6.2 Procedures reviewed by Headteacher for Governing Body to adopt:

- Emergency Plan
- First day calling – **add to point 8 (immediately) 4 hours to contact police.**
- Special educational needs and disability
- Well-being management
- Attending to soiled/wet garments – **edits on pg 3. ARH**
- Governors' allowances
- Asbestos management
- Admission arrangements

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH C of E (Aided) SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Crosby Ravensworth, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3JJ

School telephone: 01931 715265

Version 2, Page 7 of 7

- 7 Any Other Business / Items for agenda for next meeting**
None

Autumn Term 2025-2026

Possible dates for all meetings:

Resources Committee:	Friday 17 th October 2025 10am CRPS
Pupil Progress Committee:	Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 3:45pm CRPS
Full Governing Board:	Wednesday 12 th November 2025 4pm CRVH
Pay Committee	TBC
HT appraisal Committee	TBC

(Times to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 6:25pm