

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2024/2025

About Our School

Perran-ar-Worthal Community Primary School has 198 pupils on roll across seven classes at the October 2025 census.

Our experienced Headteacher leads a dedicated team of 10 teachers (3 full-time and 7 part-time) this number includes the Deputy Headteacher, who is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and the Assistant Headteacher, who leads on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and inclusion.

We are supported by:

5 Higher Level Teaching Assistants (1 full-time, 4 part-time), including staff who work 1:1 with pupils with SEND

9 Teaching Assistants (3 full-time, 6 part-time)

2 administrative staff

2 catering staff, 1 casual Lunchtime Supervisor

1 caretaker

The Governing Body: Core Functions

In line with the government's requirements for all school governing bodies, our three core strategic functions are to:

1. Ensure clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction
2. Hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
3. Oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure that money is well spent

Governing Body Constitution

Our Governing Board comprises:

- 6 co-opted governors from the local community
1 Local Authority (LA) governor
3 parent governors (elected by parents)

The Headteacher

1 staff governor (elected by staff)

Community governors are appointed for their skills and experience, which contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. At the start of the 2025 academic year, there are no vacancies on the Governing Board.

A full list of governors, their attendance at meetings, and register of interests can be found on the school's website. Attendance is consistently strong, reflecting the governors' commitment to the school.

Governance Structure

The Full Governing Board meets four times a year. Two main committees meet once per half term:

- **Curriculum, Standards and Engagement (CSE)**
- **Finance, Personnel and Premises (FPP)**

Two sub-panels report to FPP and monitor performance management processes across the school.

All committee meetings are clerked by a professional clerk, and minutes are available from the school office on request.

Effectiveness and Impact of the Governing Body

Strategic Planning:

Following extensive prolonged work on a strategic plan for our school, which engaged all staff and all governors, a final plan was agreed covering four main areas:

- Financial Sustainability
- Skills based curriculum development
- EYFS Outdoor space
- Parental Engagement

The 25/26 Annual School Improvement Plan shows work towards this longer-term planning in all four areas.

Impact : The governors, Headteacher, and all staff are fully engaged and have a clear understanding of the school's direction for the next three years.

Seventh Classroom

Following the school's early work on a sustainability strategy, which identified a seven-class structure as a key priority, we were delighted that in 2023 the Local

Authority approved our proposal for small school expansion to seven classes. This was supported by \$106 funding previously allocated to the school and planned growth funding from the Local Authority.

Our pupil admission number (PAN) increased to 30 for EYFS for the start of the 2023 academic year with a temporary 7th classroom accommodated in our school hall.

Following some very difficult challenges, the new brick-built classroom began construction in the school summer holidays of 2025. Throughout 2024/25, governors and the Headteacher worked closely with the Local Authority, architects, and Mitie to minimise delays and bring the project forward wherever possible.

Impact: Strong collaboration between governors and the Headteacher during the academic year 24/25 enabled the timely resolution of several challenges, including contractual issues and environmental considerations.

This project supports our shared vision for sustainable growth at Perran-ar-Worthal which continues to guide our future planning.

School Minibus

Our new school minibus, delivered at the end of the summer term, proudly displays the school name and logo and is already in regular use for sports and educational trips.

Some serious challenges arose regarding driving license eligibility for this particular model of minibus. One of the possible outcomes was a replacement model at a cost of several thousand pounds. The issues were successfully resolved through joint discussions and meetings between the school, governors, the Local Authority and the supplier, ensuring the school maintained affordable training costs.

Impact: All Perran-ar-Worthal staff with a valid UK driving licence and basic minibus training can now drive the minibus. The vehicle enhances school life and positively promotes our school within the wider community.

Wraparound Care

In 2023, we launched a term-time wraparound service, which remains fully subscribed. Following two parent surveys, we decided to manage this provision in-house to best meet family needs.

During the 2024/25 academic year, steadily growing demand alongside staffing constraints created severe challenges to the provision of high-quality care. To maintain high standards and increase the number of pupils able to access wraparound, governors agreed to involve an external provider to deliver sports and outdoor activities, alongside appointing an additional internal member of staff.

Impact: The service now accommodates greater numbers while offering a balance of sports and creative activities. Wraparound has remained financially sustainable and supports Pupil Premium children through subsidised places.

Governor Monitoring Visits

Each governor takes responsibility for a specific area of the School Improvement Plan. Governors also monitor statutory and best practice areas through focused visits. These include lesson observations, discussions with subject leads, and reporting back to the full board.

Impact: Monitoring visits strengthen communication across the school community, deepen governors' understanding of pupil progress, and enable well-informed challenge and support for the leadership team.

Data Monitoring

Governors spend significant time analysing pupil progress and achievement data to ensure all pupils make strong progress and that barriers to learning are identified and addressed.

We closely monitor the progress of key groups, including disadvantaged pupils, and evaluate the impact of the Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding.

Impact: Governors have a clear understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development and continue to build their capacity to challenge and interpret performance data effectively.

Policies and Procedures

An annual Business Planner records all statutory and best practice policies and their review cycles. Governors ensure that policies are up to date, compliant, and effective.

Impact: Policies and procedures remain robust and fit for purpose, supporting the smooth running and legal compliance of the school.

Finance

The Governing Board approves the school's budget annually. The Finance Committee monitors monthly reports, scrutinises spending, and ensures reserves stay above the level set in the Reserves Policy.

Impact: Prudent financial management ensures the school's long-term stability and supports high-quality education for all pupils.

Governor Training

A skills audit is conducted every two years to identify training needs and maintain a broad skill set across the board.

Post-Covid, increased access to online training has allowed governors to attend a wider range of courses, all recorded centrally.

Impact: Governors remain up to date with legislation, responsibilities, and best practice, ensuring the board continues to function effectively and strategically.

Contact Us

Perran-ar-Worthal School Governors welcome feedback, suggestions, and ideas from parents and the community.

You can contact the Chair of Governors, **Mrs. Val Royston**, via the school office or by email at: **chair@perran-ar-worthal.cornwall.sch.uk**

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