Bloxham CE Primary School



24th September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers,

The Full Governing Board met on 17th August 2025 to review progress across the school and to ensure we are supporting continuous improvement. I am writing to share some important updates.

At this meeting, we formally approved the minutes of our July meeting, which are now published on the <u>Governors' page of the school website</u> alongside other useful information about governance at Bloxham Primary.

Before the meeting began, governors and staff came together informally for a very welcome opportunity to talk in a relaxed setting. Governors greatly valued this chance to thank staff personally for the remarkable transformation that has taken place over the past two years under Mrs Marshall's leadership. The commitment and hard work of every member of staff has been central to driving improvement and embedding our school values.

The meeting coincided with the publication of Ofsted's latest inspection report, which is available on our school website. The report rightly recognises the huge progress made since 2022, praising the behaviour, happiness and care shown by our pupils, as well as the strength of Early Years provision — an area specifically identified for improvement in the previous inspection. However, it was both surprising and deeply disappointing that, despite clear evidence of substantial improvement across all areas including leadership, Ofsted judged the Quality of Education to "require improvement." This runs counter to the findings of the Local Authority, who had already confirmed that Bloxham Primary is no longer a "strategy school," and to the assessments of our leadership team, who confidently expected a "Good" outcome.

As a governing board, we are determined to ensure our school is evaluated fairly. We have therefore taken the decision to pursue Ofsted's formal complaints process. This is not about chasing labels but about holding Ofsted to account for an inspection outcome that does not reflect the reality of our school. We want to ensure that the dedication of staff and the achievements of our pupils are properly recognised.

It is important to be clear: our school does not exist to serve Ofsted. Our purpose is to serve our pupils and community. That means continually refining what we do to ensure the very best education for every pupil. Governors were delighted to hear a presentation from Mr Singleton, our new Deputy Head, who, with Mrs Marshall, has been leading work to further strengthen the curriculum so that it is simpler, deeper, and even more effective in improving pupil outcomes. We are extremely grateful for the significant time and commitment he has given to this work, including during his own summer break, which demonstrates the senior leadership team's dedication to every child at Bloxham.

The Governing Board has complete confidence in the leadership and staff team as we continue to move forward together. Improvement is not a one-off project; it is an ongoing process, and we know we have the right people in place to continue delivering excellence.

As a community, we all share the same goal: to ensure our children are happy, thriving, and leave Bloxham as well-rounded individuals ready for the future. This requires every one of us – staff, governors, parents and carers – to act as role models, living out our <u>Christian values</u> each day through our words and actions. On behalf of the Governing Board, thank you for your continued commitment and support. Together, we are building a school where every child feels valued, cared for, and inspired to achieve their best.

If you would like to know more about governance at Bloxham Primary, or to contact me directly, please email: chair@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Warm regards,

Kevin Moyes
Chair of Governors