



Governance Information

Our vision

Storybrook is a specialist SEMH primary school where every child feels safe, understood and valued. Through a trauma-informed, relational approach and high-quality teaching, we help pupils overcome barriers, develop confidence and achieve meaningful success.

Our mission

We provide a safe, nurturing and ambitious learning environment where relationships come first, behaviour is understood as communication and every pupil is supported to thrive socially, emotionally and academically.

Our values

- Belonging
- Respect
- Resilience
- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Love

To learn more about our vision, values and therapeutic approach, please visit our Ethos page.

How governors monitor the school

Governors monitor the effectiveness of the school through:

- termly governing board meetings
- safeguarding monitoring
- link governor visits
- learning walks and school visits
- reviewing pupil outcomes
- attendance and behaviour monitoring
- health and safety inspections
- policy review





- financial scrutiny
- meetings with leaders
- speaking with pupils and staff
- external audits where appropriate

Governance in action

At Storybrook, governance is active, visible and focused on continuous improvement. Throughout the year, governors work closely with the Proprietor and school leaders to provide strategic challenge, support and assurance, ensuring that every decision is made in the best interests of pupils.

Our governors provide strategic oversight by regularly:

- Visit the school to see learning, the curriculum and school life in action.
- Meet with leaders to review progress against the School Development Plan.
- Monitor safeguarding, attendance, behaviour, personal development and pupil wellbeing.
- Review educational outcomes and ensure pupils are making strong progress from their individual starting points.
- Provide strategic challenge and support to school leaders through termly governing board meetings.
- Monitor compliance with the Independent School Standards, safeguarding requirements and statutory guidance.
- Review health and safety, risk management and financial sustainability.
- Engage with pupils, staff and, where appropriate, parents and carers to understand the impact of the school's work.
- Participate in ongoing training and professional development to ensure governance remains effective and informed.

Our aim is to ensure that Storybrook continues to provide the highest standards of education, safeguarding and care, enabling every pupil to thrive socially, emotionally and academically.

The Governing Board normally meets half termly, with additional committee meetings, monitoring visits and safeguarding reviews taking place throughout the academic year.





Our Strategic Journey - 1, 3 and 5-Year Strategic Vision

<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 5</u>
<u>Building Foundations for Success</u>	<u>Embedding Impact</u>	<u>Leading Practice</u>
Safe, nurturing and fully compliant specialist SEMH school	Recognised and highly regarded specialist SEMH provision	Recognised centre of excellence for trauma-informed SEMH education
Strong relationships and therapeutic culture embedded	Positive outcomes in attendance, engagement and wellbeing	Exceptional outcomes for pupils
Broad and ambitious curriculum securely implemented	Strong academic and personal development outcomes	Sector-leading curriculum and therapeutic practice
Effective safeguarding, governance and quality assurance systems	Trusted by families, professionals and local authorities	Contributing to the wider education sector
Pupils making meaningful progress from their starting points	Pupils increasingly confident, resilient and independent	Pupils leave ready for secondary education and future success

Meet the Storyybrook Governors

Responsibility of the Governing Board

The Governing Board plays an important role in supporting the strategic leadership and continuous improvement of Storyybrook. Working alongside the Proprietor and Headteacher, governors provide independent challenge, support and assurance to help ensure that the school delivers the highest standards of education, safeguarding and care for all pupils.

The role of the Governing Board is strategic rather than operational. Governors do not manage the day-to-day running of the school; instead, they provide oversight, monitor performance and help shape the long-term direction of the school. Governors gain first-hand insight into the school's work through planned monitoring visits, while maintaining an appropriate strategic rather than operational role.

The Governing Board's core responsibilities are to:





1. Ensure clarity of the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. Hold school leaders to account for the educational performance of pupils, the quality of education, safeguarding, personal development and the overall effectiveness of the school.
3. Monitor the school's financial sustainability and use of resources, ensuring that funding is used effectively to support pupils and secure continuous improvement.

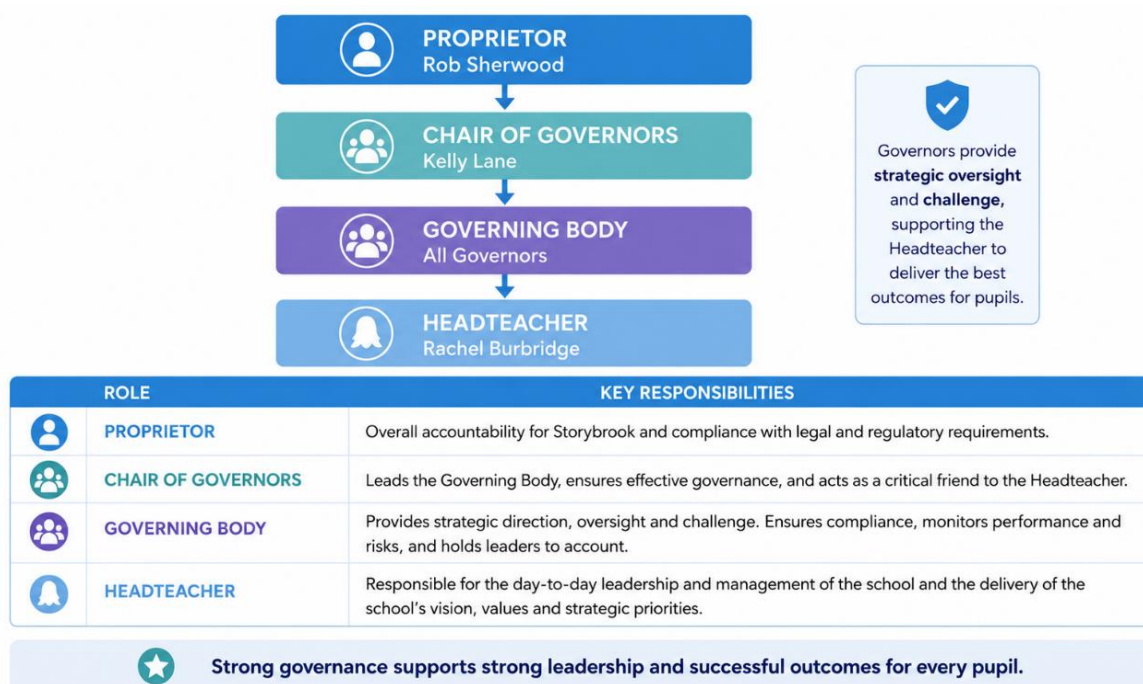
In addition, governors provide strategic oversight of:

- safeguarding and pupil welfare
- compliance with the Independent School Standards (ISSRs)
- SEND and EHCP outcomes
- attendance, behaviour and wellbeing
- health and safety
- risk management
- school development and self-evaluation

Governance Structure

Storyybrook operates a governance structure consisting of a Proprietor and Governing Board.

The diagram below illustrates how governance and leadership responsibilities are clearly defined to ensure effective strategic oversight while maintaining appropriate operational leadership.





The Proprietor holds ultimate responsibility and accountability for the school, including regulatory compliance, financial oversight, safeguarding arrangements and the strategic direction of the organisation.

The Governing Board provides independent challenge, support and assurance, helping to ensure that leaders remain focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for pupils and fulfilling the school's vision and values.

The Governing Board is chaired by Kelly Lane and includes governors with expertise across education, safeguarding, SEND, leadership, curriculum, attendance, inclusion, health and safety and human resources. Governors undertake regular training, monitoring activities and governance reviews to ensure they fulfil their responsibilities effectively.

Governors may be contacted via the school office using the school's main address, telephone number or email address.

Governor	Role	Link Responsibility	Appointed	Governor Term Ends
Kelly Lane	Chair of Governors	Chair	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Nicci Morris	Vice Chair of Governors	Standards	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Michelle Underwood	Governor	Behaviour, Relationships and Attendance	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Debbie Smith	Governor	Safeguarding and Health and Safety	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Louise Sullivan	Governor	Standards	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Rebecca Freeman	Governor	Personal Development and Wellbeing	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Clare Skelland	Governor	Finance, HR and Health and Safety	25.06.2026	24.06.2030

Governors are appointed for a four-year term of office and may be reappointed, subject to the needs of the Governing Board and the approval of the Proprietor.

Governor training and development

Governors participate in a comprehensive programme of induction, statutory training and continuing professional development to ensure they remain effective in their roles and are able to provide informed challenge and support to school leaders.





Training includes, where appropriate:

- safeguarding and child protection, including *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE)
- Prevent duty and wider safeguarding responsibilities
- special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and EHCP oversight
- the Independent School Standards (ISSRs) and regulatory compliance
- governance roles, responsibilities and effective strategic leadership
- health and safety
- data protection and information governance
- equality, diversity and inclusion
- financial oversight and risk management
- safer recruitment (where applicable)

Governors also receive regular updates on changes to legislation, statutory guidance and educational best practice to ensure governance remains informed, effective and focused on securing the best possible outcomes for pupils.

The Governing Board reviews its collective skills and training needs annually to ensure it maintains the expertise required to provide effective strategic oversight and governance.

Governor Business Interests

We are required to publish the register of business interests for the governors on our website. The following interests have been declared:

Name/Position	Interest/Organisation	Nature of Interest	Date Appointed	Date Term Ends
Kelly Lane	None declared	No interests declared at appointment	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Nicci Morris	None declared	No interests declared at appointment	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Rebecca Freeman	Storyy Education	Employer	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Debbie Smith	Education Safeguarding Solutions	Safeguarding Consultant	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Clare Skelland	None declared	No interests declared at appointment	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
Louise Sullivan	Storyy Education	Employer	25.06.2026	24.06.2030





Michelle Underwood	None declared	No interests declared at appointment	25.06.2026	24.06.2030
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Collecting and Publishing Governing Board Diversity Information

The Governing Board of Storybrook recognises the value of diversity, equity and inclusion within effective governance. We believe that a diverse governing board brings a wider range of experiences, perspectives and expertise, helping to strengthen decision-making and ensuring that governance reflects the communities we serve.

As part of our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, governors are invited to provide information about a range of protected and non-protected characteristics, including age, gender, ethnicity and disability. This information is collected voluntarily and is used to help inform governor recruitment, succession planning, training and board development.

The Governing Board regularly reviews its composition to ensure it has an appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience and perspectives to support the strategic leadership and effective governance of the school.

Due to the small size of the Governing Board, Storybrook does not publish detailed diversity data. Publishing this information could lead to individual governors being identified and would not be consistent with our obligations under data protection legislation. Diversity information is therefore reviewed internally by the Governing Board and used to support ongoing governance development.

Governance documents

The Governing Board operates in accordance with a range of policies and governance documents that support effective leadership, accountability and regulatory compliance. These include:

- Governor Code of Conduct
- Register of Business and Pecuniary Interests
- Governing Board Diversity Statement
- Scheme of Delegation (where published)
- Complaints Policy

The Governing Board reviews its policies, procedures and governance arrangements regularly to ensure they remain effective, compliant with current legislation and statutory guidance, and aligned with the strategic priorities of the school.

