



Springmoor Grange School Governor Newsletter

April 2026 Edition

Who Are We?

Pam Sneath – Co-opted Governor, Chair of Governors and Child in Care Lead

Dave Stone – Co-opted Governor, Vice Chair of Governors and Attendance Lead

Anna Bowden – Headteacher

Debra Swinburn – Co-opted Governor

Wendy Hall – Local Authority Governor, and SEND Lead

Nicola Milne - Co-opted Governor and Premiums Lead

Laura Simpson—Staff Governor

Sarah Aungiers—Co-opted Governor

Liam Clough—Co-opted Governor and Safeguarding Lead

Paul Wilson - Co-opted Governor

Gary Robinson - Co-opted Governor and Inclusion Lead

Jade Franklin - Parent Governor

Craig Armstrong - Parent Governor

Jayne Phillips— Deputy Headteacher and Associate Governor

Hannah Shepherd - Assistant Headteacher—Associate Governor

Michelle Bowman - Assistant Headteacher—Associate Governor

Tracey Jackson - School Business Manager—Associate Governor

Fabulous Spring Term

It might have been a short term but it has most certainly been jam-packed with lots of learning and exciting events. Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Staffing Update - Miss Dewey

As you know from Miss Bowden's email that was sent out a couple of weeks ago, Miss Dewey has been diagnosed with Breast Cancer. Miss Dewey is a valuable member of Team SGS and always ensures that the children get the best possible learning experiences and care in school—we know that everyone will miss her whilst she is off work receiving treatment. On behalf of everyone at Springmoor, the Governors would like to send her get well wishes.

Uniform Policy Update

It has recently been brought to our attention that there has been some confusion regarding the footwear section in our Springmoor Grange School Uniform policy. As it currently stands we recommend that Nursery children should wear trainers due to the high level of outside play they undertake. From Reception to Year 6, the policy states that black shoes should be worn. These can include 'trainer style' shoes provided that they are plain black with no logos, markings or heels. We also strongly discourage sports shoes made from netting material as they are not waterproof and can lead to children having wet feet for long periods in school. We are in the process of consulting with health and education agencies around up to date guidance and if necessary we will make amendments to our Uniform Policy to take effect from September 2026. We will update you further in our Summer Term newsletter.

Thank You to Friends of Springmoor Grange

The Friends of Springmoor Grange have been working exceptionally hard to raise money in order to improve the outdoor spaces for the children. Over the last 18 months, they have raised a staggering £7000. The Governors would like to thank the Friends for volunteering their own time and efforts to support the children and the school - it is very much appreciated. Special thanks must also go to Miss Simpson for leading the Friends.

Happy Easter!

We would like to thank the children, parents, carers and staff for their hard work and support and we wish you all a Happy Easter. School reopens on Monday 20th April 2026.



What do the Governors do?

We have three core functions which are:

- Giving the school a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

School Improvement Priorities 2025—2026

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| <p>Leadership and Governance: Engagement - To effectively engage with parents and carers in order to support pupils' achievements and wellbeing. Staff Wellbeing - To ensure that staff's wellbeing is of high priority and that workload is sustainable and proportionate.</p> |
| <p>Achievement: To increased attainment and progress so that children achieve broadly in line with national averages in tests and examinations.</p> |
| <p>Curriculum and Teaching: English - To refine the teaching of reading and writing to ensure that children develop the skills they need to make good progress in writing across the curriculum and increase the percentage of children working at and beyond age related expectations. Knowledge and Skills - To ensure children develop detailed knowledge and skills across the wider curriculum.</p> |
| <p>Behaviour and Attendance: Behaviour - To design and embed a new, consistent approach to behaviour in order to maintain high expectations for all pupil's behaviours and attitudes across all points in the school day. Attendance - To continue to prioritise attendance and punctuality and take steps to identify and tackle barriers in order to have sustained high attendance.</p> |
| <p>Personal Development and Wellbeing: Equality and Diversity - To provide children with meaningful opportunities to explore the importance of equal opportunity and respect for diversity in order to prepare children to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society. Careers - To implement and embed a Careers-Related Learning programme that is fully integrated into the curriculum from Nursery to Year 6.</p> |
| <p>Inclusion: Provision - To adapt support and provision to ensure that children with SEND are receiving effective support and intervention in order to improve achievement and wellbeing. Adaptive Teaching - To ensure that all groups, including SEND, disadvantaged and more able, are accessing high-quality teaching with inclusive adaptations and targeted interventions.</p> |
| <p>Early Years: Curriculum Development - To ensure that the curriculum in the two year old provision is adapted to meet the needs of both 15 and 30 hour children. Transition - To ensure that by the end of Reception, children are ready to begin Year 1 and more formalised learning.</p> |

How can we be contacted?

If you would like to speak to a member of the Governing Body, then messages can be passed on via the school office or through emailing the Chair of Governors at p.sneath600@durhamlearning.net

Where can I find out more about the Governing Body?

More information can be found on the website below:

www.springmoor.uk

Future Updates

Our next Governor Newsletter will be at the end of the Summer Term 2026.

