



GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
For the Academic Year 2022/23

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL AND CORE FUNCTIONS

Future Education is a special school which caters for students who have social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) difficulties, including associated challenging behaviours. Many of the students that attend the school have additional special educational needs such as speech, language and communication difficulties, attention deficit and hyperactive disorders (ADHD) and autistic spectrum disorder (ASD).

The School is part of the wider charity – Future Projects – which exists to tackle poverty, deprivation and disadvantage in Norfolk.

The school operates with high student-to-staff ratios, we deliver a unique combination of academic and vocational study alongside a range of therapy provision our students engage with learning and acquire the skills and qualifications they need to go on to lead happy fulfilled lives.

The Board of Governors has the following core functions:

1. Setting the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school, engaging with stakeholders and ensuring that statutory duties are met within the agreed policy framework
2. Acting as a 'critical friend' to the school by holding the Head Teacher to account for teaching, curriculum, behaviour, and safety; challenging and strengthening leadership; and contributing to self-evaluation and improvement

The Board

The Governing Board operates on behalf of the Charity's full board of Trustees who are the school's proprietors. This enables the Trustees to discharge their detailed duties and responsibilities effectively through the school Governing Board – which includes Trustee representation.

The Governing Board is made up of individuals with relevant experience in education and senior staff from within the charity, as well as an elected school staff Governor. Currently the Board includes experience in Curriculum development and partnerships, Leadership and Management, Headship, Charity services, and Finance.

In the 2022/23 academic year the Board met Four times – choosing to adopt more in-depth but less regular meetings than previously. Governing Board meetings are carefully planned to enable Governors to cover all key aspects of school governance throughout the year, with standing agenda, meeting dates and key activities scheduled.

Governors receive in-depth induction to familiarise themselves with the school, it's policies, aims, systems, staff and approach. Governors undertake mandatory training and additional training linked to their areas of responsibility to ensure they are adequately equipped to discharge their responsibilities.

Governors agree to adhere to the code of conduct and declare pecuniary and other interests on at least an annual basis in order to ensure conflicts of interest can be appropriately identified and managed. The Conflict of Interest policy is issued to all



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	<p>Governors meet each year and is clear in regards to how potential or perceived conflicts as well as materials conflicts, are managed.</p> <p>A current list of governors, their type and terms of office is included in Appendix A.</p>																																																																													
Clerking	<p>Clerking services are provided by Helen Paterson and include professional guidance in matters relating to Governance and best practice. The Chair of Governors undertakes formal Appraisal with the Clerk on an annual basis and the school provides training and CPD as required.</p>																																																																													
Attendance record of governors	<p>Details of individual governors' attendance at meetings are as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">6. FE FGB 08.09.22 (was 14.07.22)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FE FGB1. 12.10.22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FE FGB2. 27.01.23 (REVISED DATE)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">FE FGB3. 8.6.23, 1PM-4PM (new date)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">08 Sep 2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12 Oct 2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27 Jan 2023</td> <td style="text-align: center;">08 Jun 2023</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governor</td> <td>Governor Type</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mr Mark Chapman</td> <td>Appointed governor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Daniel Childerhouse</td> <td>Appointed governor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Gavin Cowley</td> <td>Appointed governor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Debbie Edwards</td> <td>Headteacher</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs Rebecca Handley-Kirk</td> <td>Appointed governor</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs Helen Paterson</td> <td>Clerk</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Michael Stonard</td> <td>Trustee (Member Appointed)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Y</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										6. FE FGB 08.09.22 (was 14.07.22)	FE FGB1. 12.10.22	FE FGB2. 27.01.23 (REVISED DATE)	FE FGB3. 8.6.23, 1PM-4PM (new date)				08 Sep 2022	12 Oct 2022	27 Jan 2023	08 Jun 2023		Governor	Governor Type						Mr Mark Chapman	Appointed governor	N	Y	Y	N		Mr Daniel Childerhouse	Appointed governor	Y	Y	Y	Y		Mr Gavin Cowley	Appointed governor	Y	N	Y	Y		Debbie Edwards	Headteacher	Y	Y	Y	Y		Mrs Rebecca Handley-Kirk	Appointed governor	Y	N	Y	Y		Mrs Helen Paterson	Clerk	Y	Y	Y	Y		Mr Michael Stonard	Trustee (Member Appointed)	Y	Y	N	N	
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The work that we have done in the governing body	<p>The Governing Body take its responsibility to ensure that children and staff are safe at school and that those children or staff with additional needs are supported. This includes ongoing review and management of the facilities and provisions for all, staffing structure, finance and budget plans and staff CPD.</p> <p>Governors accept responsibility for key areas of the school's activity, acting as "Link Governors". This enables Governors to utilise their specific skills in the relevant field to support and challenge the school to drive continuously improve. Governors use a structured, timetabled approach to visit the school, meet with relevant staff (leadership, teachers and support staff) and speak to students. Governors also review documentation and plans to form a view on how well the school is implementing the strategic vision and policies of the board. Governors report on their visits and discuss at each Board meeting.</p>																																																																													



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	<p>Policies are reviewed and agreed in accordance with the policy timetable, with the Headteacher and leadership team reviewing non-core policies and the full Governing Board reviewing core policies (such as safeguarding, health & safety, curriculum and so on). Significant policy changes in any policy, and all new policies proposed, are referred to the Board for full consideration.</p> <p>Governors regularly review the school SEF and SDIP to ensure plans are appropriate and suitable progress is being made. Safeguarding reports and updates are provided at each board meeting, and a full annual Safeguarding report – using the Norfolk County Council Children’s Services Template – is shared and discussed annually or sooner if significant changes deem necessary.</p> <p>Governors receive, scrutinise and discuss regular reports from the Headteacher which include relevant performance data and contextual information. Reports include Attendance, Exclusions, Safeguarding and Behaviour, Academic Performance, Wellbeing, and more.</p> <p>The school is subject to regular Quality Assurance audits from Norfolk County Council’s Education Quality Assurance, Intervention and Regulation Team, and this includes assessment of performance and actions for development/improvement which Governors regularly review. Additional audits are commissioned as required including Safeguarding audits.</p> <p>Governors review and authorise plans for Pupil Premium funds and considers the SENCO’s evaluation of impact on educational outcomes. Governors also review and agree the SEND information report prior to publication. Disability Accessibility Plans, and Business Continuity Plans are prepared, reviewed and passed to Governors for adoption – with leaders regularly reporting on progress.</p> <p>Minutes of the Governing Board meetings can be made available from the school office on request.</p>
<p>Future plans for the governors</p>	<p>The Governing Body continues to manage and monitor the school, to ensure it is appropriately fit to meet the needs of the children and staff.</p> <p>Governors intend to focus on ensuring the school continues to improve, to meet the Independent School Standards, and to address the current Ofsted rating of “Requires Improvement”. Governors are keen to invest in the school environment and staff team to achieve this.</p> <p>Governors also intend to increase the size of the Governing Board, bringing new and diverse skills and experience to support governance in the coming year.</p>
<p>How you can contact the governing body</p>	<p>We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents and other stakeholders. You can contact the Chair of Governors direct on chair@futureeducation.org.uk or via the school website at www.futureeducation.org.uk</p>



**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
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Appendix A

Membership, Terms of Office and Roles

- Chair of Governors – Daniel Childerhouse. Appointed: 11/02/2021 (3yr term)
 - Link: Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Leadership

- Appointed Governor – Gavin Cowley. Appointed 11/02/2021
 - Link: Curriculum, Teaching & Learning

- Appointed Governor – Rebecca Handley-Kirk. Appointed 10/02/2021
 - Link: SEND, LAC, Careers.

- Appointed Governor – Mark Chapman. Appointed 05/03/2020
 - Link: EDI, Business Continuity, British Values,

- Staff Governor – Sharon Moy. Appointed 18/09/2023
 - Link: Wellbeing, Behaviour, Attendance, Exclusions.

- Trustee Governor – Vacant

Other:

- Ex-Officio (Headteacher) – Debbie Edwards.
- Secretary/Clerk – Helen Paterson. Appointed 05/03/2020, renewed 05/03/2023.