



South Hams Federation

South Hams Federation Annual Governance Statement September 2026

Federation vision

"We are an inclusive school federation family that values the unique personality of each child and inspires all learners, empowering them to achieve through building knowledge, skills and individual character"

**Loddiswell Primary School and Loddiswell Pre School
Malborough with South Huish C of E Primary School
Merry Go Round Preschool – Stokenham
Modbury County Primary School
Stokenham Area Primary School**

**In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies,
the core strategic functions of the South Hams Federation Board of
Governors are:**

Establishing the strategic direction, by:

- Setting the vision, values, and objectives for the Federation
- Agreeing the Federation improvement plan with priorities and targets
- Agreeing the Governors' improvement plan with priorities and targets
- Meeting statutory duties.

Ensuring accountability, by:

- Appointing the Executive Headteacher
- Monitoring progress towards targets
- Performance managing the Executive Headteacher
- Monitoring staff well being
- Engaging with stakeholders
- Contributing to Federation self-evaluation.

Ensuring financial probity, by:

- Setting the budget
- Monitoring spending against the budget
- Ensuring value for money is obtained



South Hams Federation

Instrument of Government -

The South Hams Federation Board of Governors comprises:

1 Executive Headteacher

2 Parent Governors

1 Staff Governor

1 Local Authority Governor

5 Co-Opted Governors

2 Foundation Governors who are appointed by either the Diocesan Board of Education or the Parochial Church Council of Malborough. One of the Foundation Governor's is Ex-Officio.

Total 12

The Full Board of Governors meets 6 times a year.

The Resources Committee meetings 3 times a year

School Link Governors hold individual School Development/Accountability Meetings 6 times a year, which are all held in school allowing Governors the opportunity to meet with staff and pupils, monitor pupils progress through book scrutiny's, pupil voice and meeting with Curriculum leaders and SENDCo, these meetings are important to Governors so they are able to see the schools operating on a day-to-day basis, Governors can challenge and hold Senior Leaders to account, then report back to the Full Board of Governors. We also hold 3 Standards meetings a year in each school with the Link Governor and head of school, meeting in January, April and July looking at DATA across from Early Years to year 6.

The Link Governor meets with their Head of School weekly, either in person, remotely or by phone, the Head of School and leaders at Preschool write up a weekly Overview report, so the Link Governor are fully informed of what is happening in school/Preschool on a weekly basis.

The two Standing Committees meet as required.

The Ethos Committee meet 4 times a year.

The Executive Committee meets weekly or more frequently as required.

Board of Governors - September 2025



South Hams Federation

Executive Headteacher
Chair of Governors/Foundation
Parent Governor
Parent Governor
Co - Opted Governor
Co - Opted Governor
Co - Opted Governor
Co - Opted Governor
Co - Opted Governor
LA Governor
Staff Governor
Ex-Officio Foundation Governor

Tessa Coulthard
Jane Greaves
Andrew Hill
Fiona Rendall
Chris Smallridge
Rosie Poels
Jonathan Ducker
Sally Erith
Huw Davies
Tamara Mortimer
Louise Cross
Vacancy

Clerk
Deputy Executive Headteacher
Operations Manager
Tracey Kidd
Finance Manager

Hannah Iles
Lou Nicholls

Gayle Hill

Attendance Record of Governors

Most Governors have a good attendance record at meetings and all meetings are quorate. Some Governors join the meetings remotely, the majority meet in person. All Full Board meetings are held in School time.

Attendance records for individual governors are published on the Federation and Schools' websites.

Each year Governors are required to complete a Skills Audit to identify the skills, knowledge, and experience to identify any additional skills or experience that the Board ideally requires. The outcome of the audit helps formulate opinion as to whether prospective Governors have the skills to contribute to effective governance and the success of the Federation.

The Board has an Improvement and a strategic Plan and undertakes a Self-Evaluation review, annually.

The Work achieved by the Board of Governors in the Academic Year 2025-2026

- The Board of Governors has undergone another busy year. The school Link Governors hold School Development/Accountability meetings with their



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Head of School, SENDCo, Curriculum Leaders every half term, weekly reports from the Heads of School and Preschool Leaders are shared with the Link Governors, School Governors and Chair of Governors. All reports and visit notes are shared with the full Board of Governors and copies are filed in each schools Governor folder.

- The Governors present Governors Awards every term to those children who work hard, have been kind, considerate and have helped and supported other children within their school setting, these awards have been established for many years.
- The Federation's single budget has been approved; however, the budget has been divided up into the 4 separate schools, with separate Preschool budgets, to allow Governors to monitor and scrutinise each school's financial position more accurately. This has been very challenging to the Business Team and the Finance Manager, due to a new system that has been introduced in January 2025. There are still teething problems which the Business Team and the School's Administrators are dealing with daily. The Federation has a surplus financial position, but with cost of living that everyone is having to deal with the school's financial position is a constant concern, the Federation has to be able to balance the books to be in a surplus balance.
- The School Development Plan (SDP) has been reviewed throughout the year and the new SDP 2025-2026 was reviewed and adopted at the September Board meeting 2025.
- All the school's Curriculum Maps, Knowledge Organisers and School Self Evaluations have been completed and shared with the Board of Governors; these are also on the school's websites.
- The Board continued to make attendance amongst ALL children a high priority. Attendance is monitored on a weekly and monthly basis, is shared with Governors weekly and at all School Development/Accountability Meetings and with the Full Board.
- Governors received safeguarding training every year. Safeguarding remains a high priority and is shared with Governors in the weekly overviews and at School Development/Accountability meetings and with the Full Board.



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The Board continues to make SEND a priority and all Governors receive SEND training, Governors meet regularly with the SENDCo for their school and is shared every week in the weekly overview. Governors have been proactive in being ambitious in supporting all the schools in making sure all our children with SEND receive the best possible support, that we can give with the financial restraints all schools are under.

- The Executive Head Teacher's Performance Management has been conducted and new targets set for the year, mid-term review has also been undertaken. Executive Head then undertakes Performance Management with the Heads of Schools, this then is carried out with all teachers and Support staff across the Federation.
- The Board of Governors monitors Subject Leaders' performance, Pupil Premium outcomes, SEND, children at risk together with the progress and attainment of able children. Continuing to develop 'Greater Depth' in all Foundation subjects ensuring all pupils are receiving and enjoying a broad and balanced curriculum, making sure all children are accessing a Mastery Curriculum.
- The Board has also reviewed the Sports Premium and Pupil Premium funding and evaluated its impact on all groups of pupils. This continues to be a high priority. The Sports Premium and Pupil Premium Strategy and Impact Statements have been updated/Approved and are on the school's websites.
- Forest School curriculum continues to be a high priority across all the schools within the Federation, especially for those children with SEND and disadvantaged.
- Monitoring and observing the quality and consistency of teachers' CPD and all INSET is based on impacting positively on pupil progress and improving the quality of teaching and learning through identified key priorities from the School Development Plan, Governors attend some staff Insets where appropriate for their development in understanding their roles and responsibilities. All Governors are encouraged to attend the September Inset.
- Governors have remained focused on DATA, all children were assessed at the start of the academic year and once again in March 2025. This continues to be a priority for the Board, making sure all gaps are closed



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across all year groups and for all children, DATA is gathered in all subjects on the attainment and progress for all children, with all children accessing a Mastery Curriculum, this is shared with Governors at School Development/Accountability Meetings.

- The federation has a rolling program of its IT equipment.
- Residentials for year's 3 - 6 have taken place, Governors have been mindful of costs to parents.
- All Governors have their individual roles and responsibilities as part of their universal duties. All Governors are given a Governors Manual, sent weekly, monthly updates and are encouraged to undertake training by the Clerk, all Governors have undertaken Safeguarding SEND, Financial, GDPR and Cyber Security.
- Ofsted
Loddiswell 'Good' March 2023
Malborough 'Good' November 2022 - SIAMS 'J1' May 2024
Modbury 'Good' April 2024
Stokenham 'Good' February 2024
- One of the roles of Governors is to review and agree policies. During the year Governors have continued to identify and consider several key policies on a rolling program. All the statutory policies are on the school's website, all Policies are now written in SEND friendly font and on SEND friendly paper.

A number of building works and improvements were carried out at all five schools: Summer 2025 to July 2026

Federation

Bromcom is slowly being embedded, plus using a new IT provider alongside to make sure we are undergoing our IT and IT security.

Loddiswell Primary School



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- Deep clean of School Kitchen, all classrooms and all floors
- All routine servicing and necessary repairs carried out
- Minor repairs to doors & window

Loddiswell Pre-school

- All routine servicing and necessary repairs carried out

Malborough with South Huish Primary School

- Decommission of the pool
- Deep clean of the Kitchen, carpets and all classrooms
- All routine servicing and necessary repairs carried out
- School has had internal painting carried out throughout the school

Modbury Primary School

- Decommission of pool
- Deep clean of all classrooms, carpets and kitchen
- All routine servicing and necessary repairs carried out
- On going discussions with DCC about the Old School House, still discussions to be had with the diocese and the condition of the building and to demolish or refurbish the building.
- Both internal and outside areas improved with painting and removing fencing in playground.

Stokenham Area Primary School

- Decommission of the pool
- Deep clean of all classrooms, corridors, kitchen and carpets
- Investigation into the school roof, DCC and Devon Norse are looking into this as an urgent matter.
- All routine servicing and necessary repairs carried out

Church Links: Malborough with South Huish C of E (VC) Primary School



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'The roots to grow, the wings to fly. All within the love of God'

The Foundation Governors have a particular responsibility towards Malborough with South Huish C of E Primary School to "preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the ethos of the Church of England and in partnership with the church at parish and diocesan level" as well as to "encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils". The Ethos Committee has worked with the Church and Diocese to implement Christian values throughout the curriculum of the school and the community of Malborough and its surrounding area. The school has weekly assemblies, daily collective worship and once a month the whole school visits the church for their monthly church service, with the children actively taking part and Holy Communion lessons for the Year 6 children in the summer term, The Spiritual Detectives and the year 6 children have been in Church to serve Lent soup lunches, Church cleaning and reading to some of the Church Community.

The whole school celebrates important dates in the yearly calendar. The school prayer is said before lunch every day. The children actively work with the church community. The school also has its own Self-Evaluation Form - Vision Provision Impact and has updated the new RE syllabus inline with a C of E School. Governors and staff have attended SIAMS training.

Becky from YFC comes into school once every half term and sings with the children and undertakes Bible lessons, with year 6. Debbie the Deaconess also comes into every half term to talk to the children about Parables.

The school is also looking forward to working with other Church of England Schools across Devon.

Future Plans for the Governors

The Board of Governors looks forward to the challenges a new academic year will bring. We continue to improve and maintain teaching standards across all four schools including Loddiswell Pre School and Merry Go round, to ensure that outcomes for all pupils remain high in all subjects. We are focusing on reading, writing and math's including a broad, balanced, and cohesive curriculum entitlement; ensuring all Foundation subjects are taught to a high standard, we encourage all children to become independent, resilient, resourceful learners for life.

We are actively working with our Pre Schools who operate on site of two of our schools, to join in a more secure partnership going forward to the future of all Pre Schools being part of the South Hams Federation.



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The Governors will continue to monitor and build on the Federation's strengths and weaknesses as outlined in the Schools Development Plan.

Safeguarding and SEND will continue to be a high priority.

Senior leaders will be working in the Autumn term with another Federation in Devon on School Improvement and staff CPD.

Maintaining all our school's premises remains a priority.

Recruitment and retention of staff remains a priority.

The Governors will continue to develop their skills and update their knowledge, attend governor training courses (internal, external and virtual) and through visits to each of the schools, conduct Monitoring Visits, book scrutinise, meeting with the children, sampling the school lunches, ensuring best value and maintaining a balanced budget, alongside being strategic, to support and challenge the Executive Head and the Deputy Executive Head Teacher plus the Heads of School.

How You Can Contact the Board of Governors

We always welcome feedback, suggestions and ideas from parents: Please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs. Jane Greaves, Email: Jgreaves@southhamsfederation.org.uk