



St Merryn
School

Annual **Governance Impact Report**

2024/25

Kernow Learning

#AsOne

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Introduction

This report serves as a means for the Local Governing Body (LGB) of ST Merryn School to be transparent about its activities and outcomes throughout the academic year, showcasing how the LGB has fulfilled its responsibilities in line with the Kernow Learning scheme of delegation and the school's vision and values.

School Priorities 24/25

The priorities for this year have been:

1. Oracy across the curriculum
2. Reading – Early years Focus
3. Writing – T4W KS1 focus
4. Disadvantaged/SEN lens – Outcomes/Leadership

Purpose of Governance

Governance exists to provide strong strategic leadership to a Trust and school, ensuring accountability for its educational and financial performance.

There are four core functions of governance:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it's money is well spent. (In Kernow Learning, this responsibility lies with Trustees overall, although local governors do ensure specific grant funding, such as pupil premium and sports premium, is used effectively.
- Ensure the voices of school stakeholders are heard.

Within Kernow Learning, the Trust Board is the employer and ultimately accountable for ensuring compliance with the core functions. Each Kernow Learning school has a Local Governing Board (LGB) that is delegated responsibility to monitor the “3 S’s” Standards, Safeguarding and Stakeholders.

Canges in Local Governing Board

Across this academic year, our LGB has seen the following changes:

We had no change within our Governing Board this academic year

We end the year with 0 vacancies, but are always keen to recruit suitable people to the board to widen our skill set.

Training and Network Groups

Across this academic year, our governors have undertaken the following key training:

L3 DSL/Safeguarding Training

Safer Recruitment

Preparing for Ofsted

RSHE Governor Training

Safeguarding L2 refresher

KCSIE 2014 update

Children in Care

Disadvantaged Pupils

E Safety

Online Safety

Effective monitoring

The impact of this has been that we all have the most up to date information, and are able to support and challenge our SLT and all staff effectively.

The chair is also able to help the SLT with the recruitment of new staff.

Monitoring, Challenge and Impact

The following governor monitoring has been undertaken this year:

SEND monitoring has been carried out this year by Leroy Chandler.

Safeguarding has been carried out by Nicola Soden.

We have had 3 governor mornings. These have been especially helpful to all our governors and thank Kyja and her team for the time they have given us to support this.

Each visit focus' on a current school improvement area and these are discussed before we carry out our learning walk.

There has also been visits focused on Floor Books, Early Reading and T4W

The chair also visits regularly for informal meetings with Kyja for school updates and support.

The impact of this monitoring has been that we are able to triangulate all the information we have been given and see this in practice.

Feedback to the Trust Board

At the end of all LGB meetings, we feedback to the Trust Board so they are aware of any potential risks and challenges, along with progress against the school Improvement Plan and notable successes.

Self Evaluation and Development Plan

Our LGB undertook a self-evaluation process at the start of this academic year. This then informed our Governance development plan.

This year was focused on strengthening our governing board. We encourage all governors to undertake as much CPD they can, which is offered through KL, and also encourage them to ask questions at each LGB, and gave enough time during our visit mornings to help with anything. We also have an WhatsApp group to enable quick updates and reminders.

Our visit mornings are focused around the school priorities and change as needed.

We have an open door policy at St Merryn and encourage all LGB members to visit the school whenever they can.

School Priorities for 25/26

The School's priorities for 25/26 will be:

Autumn Term

1. Maths – Declarative, Procedural and Conditional Knowledge
2. Writing – KS1/KS2 – Focus on the New Government Writing Framework
Nursery/YR – Drawing Club implementation

Ongoing

1. Oracy across the Curriculum
2. Reading – Early Reading Focus – Phonics to Fluency
3. Disadvantaged/SEN lens (Inclusion)
4. Behaviour & Attitudes (to include attendance)

The LGB will continue with a robust and carefully planned schedule of monitoring to ensure there is progress against these priorities.

LGB self evaluation process will be reviewed in September 2025 and this will inform the governance priorities for 25/26.