

## DEANSBROOK INFANT SCHOOL

### Pupils, Parents & Community Committee

Date: Wednesday 13th May 2026

Committee Members: Carole Catley (Headteacher), Ryan Hannan (Secretary/Parent Governor), Nick Mailer (Co-Opted Governor), Judith Suissa (Co-Opted Governor), Ben Amoah (Parent Governor), Nikki Simon (Chair/Deputy Headteacher), Amun Chadha (Parent Governor), Penka Georgieva Mihov (Parent Governor)

Present: CC, RH, JS, NS, PG

Apologies: BA, NM

No Apologies: AC

Minutes: Ryan Hannan

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action	By Whom	Deadline
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Apologies were received from Ben Amoah and Nick Mailer. No apologies were received from Amun Chadha.		
MINUTES	The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2026 were agreed as an accurate record.		
MATTERS ARISING	No matters arising were raised that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.		
PUPILS	<b>Update on Current Pupil Admissions</b> Current pupil numbers were reported as 215, with 8 spaces currently available across the school: 4 in Reception, 3 in Year 1 and 1 in Year 2. Two Reception pupils (twins) recently left due to their family moving. One additional family is also expected to move.		

	<p>Nursery numbers currently stand at 43, including 17 full-time pupils, which is an increase of five pupils.</p> <p><b>Update on Admissions for September 2026</b></p> <p>There are currently 49 children on the admissions list for September, with 42 places accepted. CC confirmed that Nursery continues to be a strong feeder into Reception and that admissions remain broadly in line with previous years.</p> <p>JS asked about publicity. CC confirmed that significant publicity had taken place during the autumn term before the admissions deadline and that current promotion is focused on September 2027 admissions. Leafleting had previously been trialled but did not show clear impact.</p> <p><b>Attendance</b></p> <p>Whole school attendance currently stands at 92.8%. Attendance by year group was reported as follows:</p> <p>Reception: 93.7% / 92.7%</p> <p>Year 1: 92.9% / 91.4%</p> <p>Year 2: 93.1% / 92.9%</p> <p>CC confirmed that attendance is regularly monitored and that the school office maintains frequent contact with parents. Parents are invited to meetings with the Education Welfare Officer where concerns arise, although some families do not attend. Two families are currently progressing through legal processes</p> <p>RH asked whether the school identifies the reasons for low attendance. CC confirmed that these are discussed with families and commonly relate to illness, wider family circumstances, travel and religious observances. Medical absences require evidence in order to be authorised.</p> <p>Governors discussed that attendance below 90% equates to approximately 20 days absence across the year. Approximately 12–15 families are responsible for most absence, often linked to wider family issues.</p> <p>CC confirmed that attendance incentives continue to be used, although these do not address external factors affecting attendance.</p>		
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	<p><b>SEN Provision Update</b></p> <p>The school currently has 13 pupils with EHCPs, representing approximately 6% of the school population. Governors noted that the national average is 4.8%. Approximately 31% of pupils identified with SEND currently have an EHCP.</p> <p>There are currently 31 pupils receiving SEN Support, representing approximately 14.4% of pupils. CC confirmed that increasing SEND needs are having a significant impact on the school budget. JS asked about the proposed SEND White Paper changes. CC confirmed that schools are still awaiting further clarification regarding potential changes to EHCP processes. It was noted that parents are increasingly aware of SEND pathways, which has improved discussions.</p> <p>Governors discussed that local special schools are not expected to receive additional places. All teachers have received SEND training and the SENCO has attended additional training. NS provided an update on developments within The Nest, including Fairground (early writing) and the Curiosity Approach, which is similar to Attention Autism. NS explained how these approaches are being used to engage pupils at the appropriate starting point.</p> <p>It was noted that fundraising led by Penka enabled the purchase of an indoor swing to support pupils with specific sensory needs.</p> <p><b>Safeguarding Update</b></p> <p>The school currently has one Child in Need case and two children receiving Early Help support. NS, CC and safeguarding staff continue to meet weekly to ensure concerns are monitored and that no issues are missed.</p> <p>Governors noted that all Teaching Assistants are now using CPOMS, which has supported behaviour and safeguarding monitoring.</p>		
SCHOOL COUNCIL	School Council representatives attended the meeting and provided an update on pupil responsibilities and the new monitor system. Pupils explained how monitors are selected and outlined their responsibilities within the school.		
POLICIES	Governors reviewed the SEND Information Report, SEND Policy and Admissions Policy. JS highlighted a wording amendment on page 4 of the Admissions Policy, recommending that “casual admissions” be changed to “in-year admissions,” and also identified a typographical error on page 3. JS asked about deferred admissions and the school’s role in these decisions. CC explained that there		

	<p>is a panel process, depending on a child's age, and that under new legislation children must be in school by their fifth birthday. Parents may defer entry until this point and the school must retain the place</p> <p>RH asked whether deferred admissions impact census funding. CC confirmed that funding is protected through attendance coding.</p> <p>Governors discussed safeguarding implications where children defer entry for extended periods, particularly where there may already be safeguarding concerns. Questions were raised regarding responsibility for monitoring children who remain on roll but are not attending school.</p>		
PARENTS	<p>The Summer Fair has been moved to 11 July due to the school swimming pool schedule. One planning meeting has already taken place and additional support was welcomed</p> <p>RH asked whether pupils could make greater use of the swimming pool. Discussion took place regarding possible future opportunities through clubs.</p>		
COMMUNITY	<p><b>School Website</b></p> <p>Governors noted that the school website continues to be maintained by Laura Storey.</p> <p><b>Lettings</b></p> <p>Lettings have generated approximately £12,000 against a budget target of £11,000</p> <p>Football, tennis and Ninja clubs continue to operate. Governors discussed that some clubs may not be accessible to all pupils and that expanding provision is challenging due to staffing workload linked to SEND demands.</p>		
AOB	None raised.		
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	To be confirmed.		