

Brookland Infant & Nursery and Brookland Junior Schools
Full governing body meeting - Unclerked
9 July 2025 6pm INFANT school
Minutes

LA GOVERNOR

Lucy Tobin

STAFF GOVERNOR

Jenny Catley

PARENT GOVERNORS

Samantha Jayasekera-Heffer (Infant)
Kate Blumhof (Junior)

CO-OPTED GOVERNORS (12)

Gabi Symons- (Junior Teacher)
Aimee Epstein (Infant Teacher)
Farnoush Bikdeli (Junior Support)
Michael Farhi
James Clare (Vice Chair)
Lisa Weinbrenn
Laura Pincus (Chair)
Nick Astaire
Jeff Harris
Judith Bernstein
David Lee
Daniella Jackson

HEADTEACHERS

Brenda McCafferty (Infant Headteacher)
Jenny Aylen (Junior Headteacher)

NON-VOTING OBSERVERS

Amy Hurst (Infant DHT)
Cara Christie (Junior DHT)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Sapna Shah
Clare Rosen

1. Welcome/visitors
The Chair welcomed all governors, including visitor Karen Gubbay who will be joining us in September as an associate member for SEN, and Junior students
2. Acceptance/non acceptance of apologies for absence
Apologies were accepted from NA and JC
3. Brookland leaders/student representatives/Book looks
Students shared their books with governors to show them what they were working on and how much progress they have made this year
4. Thank you to Claire Rosen
We thanked Claire for her years of service and gave her a token of our appreciation.
5. Amy Musani JR RE subject leader presentation
Amy shared the updates to the RE curriculum. This includes the 6 big questions that will form threads that run through each year group.

The "New RE curriculum six big questions" refers to a framework for teaching Religious Education (RE) based on the work of Ann Taves, which asks six fundamental questions to explore human existence and beliefs: Reality (What exists?), Origins (Where do we come from?), Knowledge (How do we know things?), Situation (What is our situation?), Goal (What is the good we strive for?), and Path (What actions should we take?). These questions, also known as

"Big Ideas," form a consistent "golden thread" throughout a sequential RE curriculum, fostering critical thinking and open-mindedness in students from primary to secondary school.

6. Finance update

The Chair of the Finance committee provided an overview of the discussion held on 8 July 2025.

Entrust update

- Anita back
- Mistakes in both infant and junior accounts from last year
- Notified Barnet that new budget would be coming soon
- Want to now approve the budget
- We are continuing discussions with Entrust about getting money back

Infant School

The projected income for 2025/26 is £2.40m and total expenditure is £2.37m. This leaves an in year surplus of approximately £23,000. The School did however have a current deficit of £93,162 left over from 2024/25. This would therefore leave the School with a deficit in 2025/26 of approximately £70,200.

Pupil Premium (£1,515) is set to generate an income of £37,875 for the year (up slightly on the prior year). Projected staff costs represented 71.3% of projected income. £10,371 had been added for capital projects and there was £7,386 held in the capital income account; it was the intention to allocate this to new construction/ renovation.

Junior School

The total income for 2025/26 is expected to be approximately £2.70m. Total expenditure for 2025/26 is budgeted at approximately £2.74m. This left the School with an anticipated in year deficit of £33,052. However, the School currently had a surplus of approx £46,000 left over from 2024/25. This left the School with a contingency (surplus) in 2025/26 of £13,343.

Pupil Premium (£1,515) was set to generate an income of £90,900 for the year (up slightly on the prior year) and staff costs represented 74.7% of income. £12,002 had been added for capital projects and there was £8,028 held in the capital income account; it was the intention to allocate this to new construction/ renovation. The committee recommended the budgets for Approval. Following a show of hands, Governors RATIFIED/APPROVED the budgets for both Schools.

7. SEN/Adaptive Teaching

Discussion around steps taken, resources used and interventions implemented to help children succeed.

8. Data briefing – how do the schools use data

We went over in depth what each set of data means and how the INF school uses it to inform next steps.

9. Annual cycle/TOR/Policy list information

Chairs to review and keep LP informed of updates

10. Governance effectiveness audit due Fri 25 July 25 – moved to November meeting

11. Governor Newsletter – all committee blurbs received thanks

Upcoming dates:

Thurs 25 Sept 2025 6pm

Tues Nov 18 2025 6pm unclerked

Wed Jan 28 2026 Curriculum Tea 3:30/meeting 5pm

Tues Mar 10 2026 6pm

Tues 19 May 2026 6pm

Tues July 7 2026 6pm unclerked

