

Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of Cotmanhay Junior School Autumn 2026

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the core functions of Cotmanhay Junior School's Governing Body include, but are not limited to ensuring:

- (1) that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- (2) that the headteacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school; and
- (3) the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Cotmanhay Junior School was reconstituted in February 2017 and is now made up of the following eleven governors, who each have a four year term of office:

- One Headteacher
- One Staff
- One Local Authority
- Two Parents
- Six Co-opted

There are currently no Associate Members.

Chair of Governors	Mr Sean Platt
Vice-Chair of Governors	Mrs Dee Hill

The governing body has a programme of meetings throughout the school year, and a committee structure that focuses on specific areas of governance.

Governors' Annual Statement of Impact 2025-26

Governors provide ongoing support and challenge to the school's senior leadership team and the wider school community. They do this as volunteers and give their time freely for the good of the school community. Governors bring their skills and knowledge together to ensure that the Governing Body, as a collective, can meet the needs and demands of the role.

Governors have reflected on the comments in the last Ofsted Report which stated "Leaders at all levels, including governors, are relentless in their aspirations for pupils."

Governors continue to be pleased and impressed by the incredible work of the leadership and school staff with regard to all children but in particular towards the rising number of SEND pupils. The partnership between the SEND appointed governor and school leaders is very important and allows the flow of information, support and challenge to produce the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

Supporting children to develop their sense of belonging and reach their potential, regardless of starting points and their individual barriers to learning, is the priority for the Governing Body. Ofsted noted "the school significantly enhances pupils' personal development." These are the statements that please governors, as they strive to ensure that the budgets approved deliver these enhancements. All governor decisions are focused on child centred approaches.

Regular visits to the school were completed for Safeguarding auditing, single central record checking, Health and Safety as well as budgetary meetings. During those visits, Governors were pleased to see that the school leaders maintain a relentless focus on continuous improvement and that learning takes place in a well-ordered and calm environment.

The Governors recognise that there is still work to be done and key areas such as reading, writing and attendance need to improve further still. They will not shy away from the work involved and are determined to continue providing the support and challenge to the school leadership team in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for every child in school.

We know that everyone at Cotmanhay Junior School has high expectations of all pupils. As we enter a new year with increasing numbers of SEND pupils, and an extremely high level of pupils accessing pupil premium due to the high numbers on free school meals, we know that the school is well equipped to continue to evolve and rise to the challenges of providing excellent outcomes for all.

Strategic Planning for the Future

The targets for the next academic year (2026/27) can be summarised as follows:

- Children can read the curriculum
- Children can remember and apply the curriculum
- Children attend in line with national averages.

Contacting your Governing Body

Information about the school's governing body is available on the governors' page of the school's website. Governors at Cotmanhay Junior School can be contacted by the following methods:

Telephone	0115 930 2011
Letter	Cotmanhay Junior School, Beauvale Drive, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. DE7 8RR
E-mail	info@cotmanhay-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk
Clerk	Mrs Sharon Hedley-Fenn

Cotmanhay School Governing Body – Current Membership

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>	<u>Term of Office Expiry Date</u>
Mr Simon Robinson	Headteacher	01/09/2012	Not applicable
Mrs Laura Ledger (Hardwick)	Staff	30/06/2021	29/06/2029
Mrs Dee Hill	Local Authority	27/03/2018	23/11/2026
Miss Ruth Hallam	Parent	01/12/2023	30/11/2027
Miss Kimberley Mitchell	Parent	16/07/2024	15/07/2028
Mr Sean Platt	Co-opted	17/10/2017	16/10/2029
Mr Adam Cope	Co-opted	01/12/2020	30/11/2028
Mrs Hannah Pearson	Co-opted	04/07/2023	03/07/2027
Mr Paul Smithurst	Co-opted	22/09/2026	21/09/2030
Mrs Victoria Maltby	Co-opted	05/12/2023	04/12/2027
Vacancy	Co-opted		

Other Governors from the Previous 12 Months:

<u>Previous Governors</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>	<u>Date Stepped Down</u>
No leavers 2025-26			

Appointing Bodies

Headteacher	By virtue of their position
Staff	Elected by school staff
Parent	Elected by parents
Authority	Nominated by the local authority, appointed by the governing body
Co-opted	Appointed by the governing body
Associate Member	Appointed by the governing body

Committee Structure & Membership

Strategy & Resources Committee

Ms Ruth Hallam
Mrs Dee Hill (Committee Chair)
Mr Sean Platt
Mr Simon Robinson

Policy Committee

Mrs Dee Hill
Mrs Hannah Pearson
Mr Sean Platt (Committee Chair)
Mr Simon Robinson

Teaching & Learning Committee

Mr Adam Cope
Mrs Laura Ledger
Mrs Victoria Maltby
Miss Kimberley Mitchell
Mrs Hannah Pearson
Mr Sean Platt (Committee Chair)
Mr Simon Robinson

Governors with Specific Responsibilities

Area of Responsibility

Allergy
Anti-Bullying & Equality
Attendance
Data Protection
Headteacher Performance Management
Health & Safety
Looked After Children
Outdoor Play & Learning (OPAL)
Pupil Premium
Sports Premium
Safeguarding
SEND
Arts & Culture
English/Writing
Geography
History
Maths
Physical Education
Science
Wellbeing & PSHE

Governors

Mr Sean Platt
Mr Adam Cope
Miss Ruth Hallam
Mr Sean Platt
Miss Ruth Hallam, Mrs Dee Hill & Mr Sean Platt
Mrs Dee Hill
Mr Adam Cope
Mrs Laura Ledger & Miss Kimberley Mitchell
Mr Sean Platt
Mr Paul Smithurst
Miss Ruth Hallam
Mrs Laura Ledger & Miss Kimberley Mitchell
Mrs Victoria Maltby
Mrs Dee Hill
Mrs Victoria Maltby
Mr Adam Cope
Mrs Dee Hill & Mrs Laura Ledger
Mr Paul Smithurst
Mr Sean Platt
Mrs Hannah Pearson

Cotmanhay Junior School Governors' Attendance Record for 2025-26 (%)

A record is kept by the clerk to the governing body, of governors' attendance at meetings. Details of attendance can be found below. Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made.

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Full GB (3) Meetings</u>	<u>Committees</u>
Mr Simon Robinson	100%	100% (1/1)
Mrs Laura Ledger	100%	N/A
Mrs Dee Hill	33%	100% (1/1)
Miss Ruth Hallam	100%	N/A
Miss Kimberley Mitchell	100%	N/A
Mr Sean Platt	100%	100% (1/1)
Mr Adam Cope	100%	N/A
Mrs Hannah Pearson	50%	N/A
Mrs Victoria Maltby	0%	N/A
Mr Paul Smithurst	N/A	N/A
Vacancy	N/A	N/A

Pecuniary & Personal Interests Declared for 2026-27

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Pecuniary</u>	<u>Personal</u>
Mr Simon Robinson	None	Married to a member of school staff & school counsellor is children's auntie
Mrs Laura Ledger	None	Parent volunteers at school
Mrs Dee Hill	None	None
Miss Ruth Hallam	Employed at Cotmanhay Infant & Nursery School	None
Miss Kimberley Mitchell	None	None
Mr Sean Platt	None	None
Mr Adam Cope	None	None
Mrs Hannah Pearson	None	None
Mrs Victoria Maltby	None	None
Mr Paul Smithurst	N/A	Chair of Board of Trustees - Disability Support Nottingham. Charity Number: 1178924.
Vacancy	N/A	N/A

Governors who are also a Governor, Trustee or Member of Staff at Any Other School/Academy

<u>Governor</u>	<u>Name of School/Academy</u>	<u>Position Held</u>
Miss Ruth Hallam	Cotmanhay Infant School	Teaching & Learning Assistant & School Governor
Dee Hill	Derby and Derbyshire Disabled Soldiers Settlement Schools within Local Authority	Trustee Derbyshire Leader of Governance

Number of employees whose gross salary exceeds 100K in 2026-27