

Hove Learning Federation – Governor Update

Spring Term 2025

As we head into the final term of this school year, the governing board has been busy – not only visiting classrooms and supporting staff but also strengthening our team. We know that schools thrive when they are part of a vibrant, well-supported community – and governors play a key role in making that happen.

We're pleased to welcome four new members to the Hove Learning Federation governing board.

Oyinkolade Akinleye

Law, local government & community insight

Oyinkolade works in housing strategy at the council and is studying for a Masters in Intellectual Property and Technology Law. Oyinkolade brings leadership experience from student and community leadership roles and a strong commitment to inclusion and local engagement.

Alex Scott

Strategic communications & education sector experience

A senior consultant in fundraising, organisational development and communications, Alex has worked with organisations like YoungMinds, NSPCC and the University of Brighton. A school parent and former Vice-Chair at Stanford Junior, Alex also brings valuable experience of school governance.

Katie Kershaw

Reputation, risk management & parent voice

Katie has over two decades' experience in public relations, corporate reputation and business transformation. She brings a calm, clear approach to navigating change – and a parent's perspective too.

Sam Seaborne Self

Strategy, operations & system leadership

Sam is a consultant at the council and has held senior roles in education and global charities. With expertise in finance, HR and data, Sam brings practical strengths to support the schools' strategic and operational planning.

Spotlight on Monitoring Visits

As governors, one of our key responsibilities is to act as a critical friend to the school – offering support and challenge to ensure the highest standards are being

maintained. Monitoring visits are a key part of what we do.

Here's a snapshot from two recent visits:

Reading monitoring

“It was clear why reading is such a strength across the school. Staff showed real expertise and ambition – not just maintaining strong outcomes but always looking to improve.

Pupils spoke positively and confidently about reading – even those who find it more of a challenge, which really says a lot about the school’s ethos and approach.”

— **David Karp, Head of Curriculum and Inclusion Committee**

SEND, safeguarding & disadvantaged pupils

“We saw a calm, purposeful atmosphere and real care for every child. It was impressive to see inclusive practice in action and how well supported pupils felt.

The children spoke clearly and confidently about their learning, and it was lovely to hear how much they enjoy school and know how to access help if needed.”

— **Lisa Marshall, Co-Vice Chair**

Looking ahead

We know this is a time of change, and we're committed to keeping families informed. Our focus remains on supporting our schools and making sure every child continues to thrive.

If you'd like to get in touch, governors can be contacted via the school office or through our dedicated email; clerk@hovelearningfederation.brighton-hove.sch.uk.

Best wishes from all HLF governors