We are a welcoming, caring and stimulating school. We inspire a love of learning by nurturing potential, fun and happiness. We celebrate our success as we achieve high standards in all aspects of life, allowing children to grow spiritually, morally and socially within a strong Christian ethos.

"I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness"
John 10:10

ELVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
Achievement and Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 6pm

Present:	Andrew Buttery (Headteacher)	Joseph Freeman (Chair)
	Charlotte Saltmer	Bruce Cole
	Jo Parker	Laura McGouran (First 30 minutes)
	Ben Calverley (First 30 minutes)	Katy McCaffrey (First 30 minutes)
	Gary Measom (First 30 minutes)	Samantha Ware (First 30 minutes)

In Attendance: Charlotte Stringer – Governance Support Officer, Clerk
Nicola Jolly- School Business Manager (First 30 minutes)

		ACTION
1.	**Welcome and Opening Prayer** The meeting opened in prayer led by the Headteacher.	
2.	**Apologies for absence and declarations of interest** Apologies, with consent, were received from Dave Brett. Joseph Freeman notified governors that he was also on the committee of the Elvington Under Five's which was to be discussed as a matter arising. Governors agreed that Joseph would not be able to vote in the decision and would be asked to leave the room but could join in discussion.	
3.	**Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2026** – *previously distributed* The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were duly **approved.**	
4.	**Action Plan and Matters Arising not covered by the agenda** **Action plan:**	

	ACTION	***AGENDA ITEM***	***WHO***	***Update***
1.	Headteacher to email Jo Parker to invite her into school to meet before the SIAMS meeting.	10	Andrew Buttery	Complete

Matters arising- Elvington Under Fives
All governors were invited to attend the first 30 minutes of the Achievement and Curriculum Committee where a decision was to be made whether to keep or remove the Elvington Under Fives building following publication that the current tenants of the Elvington Under Fives building would not be continuing on.

The Headteacher shared a letter from the Elvington Under Fives, and advised governors of the agreement signed in 1999, stating that Elvington Under Fives would be responsible for the removal of the building and make good any damage to the school playground, and reimburse Elvington Primary for the cost of repairing any damage caused to the remainder of the school premises arising from the use. The Headteacher advised governors they would need to decide on the future of the building and whether Elvington Primary would take on ownership and responsibility of the building.

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Nicola Jolly (SBM) and the Headteacher visited the site and took Ruth Griffin, to assess the state of the building.

A governor asked what would happen if Elvington Under Fives didn't have the ability to fund the repairs.
A governor expressed that the cost would be put onto the committee members of the nursery personally.

A governor asked whether the assumption was that the nursery could or couldn't afford to adhere to the agreement.
The Headteacher expressed his belief that the nursery did not have sufficient funds and explained that the cost estimate of the repairs would be around £30K.

Discussion took place around the notice provided by the current owners of the building and the SBM clarified how the land was used and that the Elvington Under 5s was a completely separate business from the school. The current owners of the building were unaware of the agreement and the three months' notice period requirement.

A governor asked about whether the building was insured and whether as it was a modular building it had expired.
The Headteacher explained that the building had passed its 20-year life span and shared some photos of the current state of the building, highlighting some rotten and unstable sections, and the level of repairs needed to bring the building to a state that the school could use.

A governor asked whether it was cheaper to replace the building rather than fix it.
The Headteacher confirmed that it would be cheaper to level it and build a new purpose-built building.

Governors agreed that the view was that it was an unsuitable project given the financial strain the school was currently under.
Discussion took place over options of the use of the building and site, and whether it was feasible to take on.

A governor asked about using the building for storage.
The Headteacher reported that the building was currently not suitable for use in its state.

A governor asked if the land the building was on could be utilised by the school.
The Headteacher described the outside area as a strength, however, drew attention to the potential costs to the school of taking it over for repairs for safe usage such as adding fencing and replacing the outdoor flooring.

Various scenarios were discussed in depth, along with different workable exit plans for the lease holders.

A governor asked whether there was anyone at the Local Authority (LA) who could suggest a way of using the building to bring a profit to the school.
The SBM advised that she was unaware but could ask Ali Kelly at CYC if there were any suitable projects that could use the site. The SBM added that a strong business plan would be needed if capital would be spent on a project, given the financial position of the school.

ACTION- SBM to discuss project options for the site with Ali Kelly at CYC. **SBM**

Various options of funding a repair from outside charities were discussed but it was clarified that there was a short timeframe, and it was unfeasible.
Discussion took place on various ways to remove the building at a low cost, along with the feasibility of refurbishing the building.

The Headteacher asked governors to vote on whether the Elvington Primary could take on the building or not.

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	The Headteacher, Charlotte Saltmer, Nicola Jolly, and Joseph Freeman stepped out and a vote took place. **Governors unanimously agreed not to take on the building.** The Chair and Headteacher agreed to draft a letter stating that Elvington Primary would not be taking on the building and this would be circulated to governors by the end of the week. The Headteacher asked governors to keep the decision confidential until the nursery had been notified. **ACTION**- Headteacher to draft a letter to Elvington Under Fives stating that Elvington Primary would not be taking on the building. **Peer review-** The Headteacher explained that a peer review had taken place along with three other schools – Lord Deramore's, Clifton Green and Yearsley Grove. Context was provided around why the Headteacher from Clifton Green was not present. Learning walks had taken place and the Headteacher highlighted positive behaviour at Elvington. Teaching Assistant (TA) deployment was discussed along with effective direction of TAs in class. Overall, the feedback was positive, however, it was noted that all TAs needed to ensure that they were actively involved in the learning of the pupils, especially when there were such financial pressures on the school's budget. Class size was also mentioned as a reason for requiring TAs in class.	**Head**
5.	**End of Year Outcomes – EYFS, Phonics, Year 2, Year 4 multiplication and Year 6 (teacher assessed)** The Headteacher explained that there would be more data available at the Full Governing Board meeting on the 7th July as the Year 6 SATs results would be available then. EYFS- the data had dropped down to 86% as one child was not reaching Good Level of Development (GLD) and context was provided to governors. The national average was estimated at high 60%. Phonics- Year 1, 100% passed and excelled, and continue to be a strong and able year group. The cohort was praised on their level of ability and their overall positive attitudes to learning. One pupil in Year 2 did not pass the Phonics test and governors were assured that support was in place, and it was likely that the pupil would receive support to access the same learning next academic year. Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check would be taking place tomorrow. The Headteacher hoped most pupils would achieve 20/25 or above but explained that there was no official pass mark. Governors were advised on what the check looked like and the preparation the pupils were given. Year 6 (Teacher Assessed)- prediction of 80% or higher for Reading Writing and Maths. One pupil was disapplied from the SATs and governors were provided with context around that pupil and another child who did not sit the SATs paper, which would affect the overall data received for the cohort. Year 2- Charlotte Saltmer fed back to governors the Year 2 assessments and overall achievements. SPAG was lower than expected due to timing discrepancies in the teaching order from Little Wondle and the assessment. The Headteacher added that the papers were now optional and tried to remove the pressure from the pupils sitting the assessments. **A governor asked whether there were national results available to compare.** The Headteacher expressed that as it was now optional, there was no standardised data to compare or work out boundaries of grades.	
6.	**School Development Plan (SDP) (***Previously distributed)* The Headteacher shared that he continued to work on the new format and therefore there were no significant changes from the previous meeting. The Headteacher advised governors that this would be ready for next academic year, however, it would continue to be a working document throughout the year.	

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7.	**Schools Self Evaluation Form (SEF)** *(previously distributed)* There were no updates to the SEF and no questions from governors.	
8.	**SEND Report** The Headteacher stated that all pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) would be working through the new EHCP format and explained the funding allocation changes and gave an example of a pupil who's funding had increased due to the new banding.	
9.	**Class structure for next academic year** The Headteacher advised governors that parents would find out class allocation with the reports at the end of the year and shared a letter sent to parents setting out the four class structure, highlighting that the class sizes at Elvington EYFS and KS1 were still lower than the vast majority of schools. There would be two lower classes, one of 20 and one of 21 pupils. Classes in KS2 were noted to be significantly larger than the KS1. Year 3/4 class was full at 40 pupils, and a child would be joining Year 4, increasing the number to 41. PFAM voting had occurred and the Headteacher explained to governors what this had entailed. The Headteacher shared that he had questioned the PFAM vote and had been told that Elvington would have to make it work and the pupil would be joining the school before the end of term. It was noted that the vote was not open for appeal and could not be overturned. A governor commented that the addition of this extra pupil was adding to the pressure on the teacher and had concerns over pushing teaching staff to leave the school. The Headteacher added that it was also a concern of his, however, there were options of support for the teacher, including the addition of a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA). The Headteacher advised that two Beginning Teachers would be joining the school in partnership with University of York. They would be in school for the Autumn term and could potentially take the pressure off the teacher of the larger class by taking smaller groups for teaching practise. Governors were reassured that this would be a positive move for the school.	
10.	**Index of Statutory Information** (*previously distributed)* Governors were shown the Index of Statutory Information on the school website and informed that governors were required to know where the information was during an Ofsted visit. The Headteacher explained that all the information Ofsted inspectors were required to look at was all in one place and had received positive feedback from a previous inspection. Governors were directed to the page and encouraged to have a look. There were no questions.	
11.	**Review of Enrichment Provision** The Headteacher acknowledged the input the PTA had on enrichment. The co-chair would be stepping back from the role and governors passed on their thanks to them for all of their efforts. Governors were assured that enrichment remained fair and equitable. The PTA worked to reduce the costs of trips and provided funding options for families who would struggle to attend. PTA covered the cost of Year 5/6 swimming.	
12.	**Parent/Carer Questionnaire Feedback** The Headteacher shared the results of the Parents' Questionnaire from the Summer term 2026. It was noted that the biggest contested issue was homework arrangements. 54% agreed that the current arrangement worked. The Headteacher expressed that there was never going to be a policy that all families agreed on. It was noted that homework showed a clear link with what happened at school and what happened at home. The Headteacher shared an example of a homework task, and discussion took place over the importance of homework allowing creativity.	

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	Reflecting on the parental comments, Year 1 and Year 2 homework would become completely optional next academic year. **A governor asked about the wording of homework arrangement and whether parents understood.** The Headteacher shared that the wording was based around the Ofsted wording, and parents were familiar with the language. Discussion took place over the role of homework and the importance of maintaining a school/life balance. It was noted that the current homework expectations were workable and prepared them for the remainder of their educational career. Overall responses from parents who completed the questionnaire were really positive and the Headteacher highlighted some of the positive comments, such as families feeling certain Elvington Church of England Primary School was the right school for their child and was happy that they attended. Governors were made aware that that the positive feedback was due to the positive relationships that had been built and maintained with families of the school. Parents/carers who had moved their children to Elvington from another school were noted as providing the most positive comments. Governors were shown positive comments from parents and governors thanked the staff team for all they do to support the children in their care.	
13.	**Any other Urgent Business** There was no other urgent business.	
14.	**Dates and Times of Future Meetings** 10th November 2026 2nd March 2027 8th June 2027	

The meeting ended at 19:55pm.

Minutes will be approved by the Chair, at the meeting to be held on 10th November 2026.

Action Plan following the meeting held on 9th June 2026

	ACTION	***AGENDA ITEM***	***WHO***	***WHEN***
1	SBM to discuss project options for the site with Ali Kelly at CYC	4	SBM	ASAP
2.	Headteacher to draft a letter to Elvington Under Fives stating that Elvington Primary would not be taking on the building.	4	Head	Complete

Items for Future FGB Agenda

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