

Annual Statement from the Chair of Governors 2025–2026

As Chair of Governors, I am delighted to present this annual statement on behalf of the Governing Body of Cotmanhay Infant and Nursery School.

Over the past year, governors have continued to work closely with the Headteacher and senior leaders to ensure that every child receives the highest quality education in a safe, caring and ambitious environment. Our role is to provide strategic leadership, support and appropriate challenge, ensuring that the school remains focused on delivering the very best outcomes for all children.

This year has been one of celebration and continued improvement. We were particularly pleased that Ofsted recognised the many strengths of our school, describing Cotmanhay Infant and Nursery School as a happy and safe place where pupils behave well, enjoy learning and thrive because they are so well cared for. The report acknowledged the highly positive relationships that underpin every aspect of school life and recognised the expertise and commitment of our dedicated staff.

As governors, we are especially proud that Ofsted highlighted the school's longstanding reputation within the Cotmanhay community for providing high-quality care and education. We know that many of our families face significant challenges, and we remain committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of their background or circumstances, has the opportunity to succeed. The report also recognised the valued support the school provides to families and the strong partnerships we have built within our community.

Throughout the year, governors have monitored the school's priorities through regular visits, meetings with leaders and staff, scrutiny of pupil outcomes and safeguarding procedures, and engagement with parents and pupils. We have seen first-hand the excellent start that children receive in our Nursery and Reception classes, where positive learning behaviours are established from the earliest years. We are proud of the strong foundations children develop in reading, writing and mathematics, enabling them to make good progress throughout their time with us.

We continue to place inclusion at the heart of everything we do. Governors have been pleased to see the impact of the school's work in supporting disadvantaged pupils and those with special educational needs and disabilities. Early identification of need, personalised support and the nurturing provision within Busy Bees ensure that children receive the care and education they need to flourish.

The Governing Body also recognises the importance of developing the whole child. We are delighted that pupils benefit from a wide range of enrichment opportunities, including educational visits, outdoor learning, clubs and experiences that broaden their horizons and build confidence. We have also supported the school's continued work to

improve attendance through positive partnerships with families, ensuring that children are able to make the most of every learning opportunity.

Our priority as governors is to ensure that Cotmanhay Infant and Nursery School continues to build on its many strengths while striving for continual improvement. We remain committed to maintaining high standards of teaching and learning, supporting staff development, ensuring robust financial management and safeguarding, and working collaboratively with parents, carers and the wider community.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank our Headteacher, staff, pupils, parents and carers for their continued dedication, support and commitment. Together, we have created a school where children are happy, feel safe and are inspired to learn. We look forward to building on this success during the coming year.

Sabrina Malik

Chair of Governors

Cotmanhay Infant and Nursery School