



Pate's Grammar School

Governors' Statement of Strategic Intent

Our Purpose

As the Governing Body of Pate's Grammar School, our strategic intent is to steward, challenge and support the school in fulfilling its ambition to deliver **an education of unrivalled excellence** – one that is built on care and connection – so that every student can **belong, thrive** and **excel**. This statement provides a governance lens through which the Pate's 2035 Vision is to be seen and realised.

What We Want Pate's to Be Known For

We want Pate's to be known for:

- **Exceptional academic success and scholarship**, placing the school securely among the very highest-performing maintained schools nationally.
- **Intellectual rigour alongside breadth**, offering a rich, ambitious curriculum complemented by a wide and purposeful co-curricular programme.
- **A culture of care and connection**, where mutual respect, empathy, and collaboration are present in every classroom, corridor and conversation – and where the quality of relationships between students, staff, and the wider community is understood as central to everything Pate's aspires to be.
- **Successful post-school destinations**, with students well prepared for higher education, employment and meaningful participation in society.
- **Inclusive excellence**, ensuring that all students are supported to flourish, regardless of background or circumstance.
- **Regional and national leadership**, contributing expertise, thought-leadership and advocacy in areas where Pate's has demonstrable strength.

Our Strategic Commitment

Through this statement, the Governing Body affirms its commitment to maintaining Pate's as a community defined by excellence, belonging and purpose. Our role is to ensure that the school's historic strengths are matched by a clear-eyed, values-led approach to the future, one that is grounded in the quality of relationships within our community and the care we show for one another, so that Pate's continues to educate young people who are intellectually confident, empathetic, socially responsible and ready to lead with integrity and genuine regard for others in a complex and changing world.

Our Governance Priorities

Academic excellence and broad achievement.

Pate's is currently one of the top performing state schools in the country for GCSE and A Level results, and academic excellence remains a core priority. But governors understand excellence broadly – as encompassing intellectual growth, personal development, and the contribution students make to their community and the wider world. We will hold the school to account against the full breadth of what it means to thrive at Pate's, not examination results alone, and we will monitor outcomes for all groups of students to ensure no one is left behind.

Inclusion.

We are committed to ensuring that every student within our community – whatever their background, additional need, or starting point – is fully supported to participate, belong, and achieve. We will monitor inclusion data carefully, including outcomes for SEND, Pupil Premium, and Looked After Children, and we will hold the school to account for ensuring that no student is disadvantaged by our policies or practices.

Our relational ethos and school culture.

Governors believe the relational ethos at the heart of Pate's culture – rooted in genuine regard for every individual, in the quality of relationships between students and the adults who know and teach them, and in a community built on mutual respect and empathy – should be consciously nurtured and reflected in how the school approaches the wellbeing and conduct of its community. Governors will satisfy themselves that school policies, including the behaviour policy, reflect this belief and are implemented in a way that is consistent with our values.



Staff wellbeing and professional growth.

We hold high expectations of our staff, and we hold equally high expectations of ourselves as governors in return. Pate's should be a place where careers flourish, where staff feel genuinely valued, and where professional development and personal wellbeing are treated as inseparable. Governors will monitor staff wellbeing alongside student outcomes.

Financial sustainability and the Pate's Foundation.

Pate's operates under real financial pressures. Governors are committed to ensuring that the school maintains a financially sustainable model, that resources are managed with care and transparency, and that our relationship with the Pate's Foundation – the historic guardian of our founder's vision and a vital partner in our financial sustainability – is one of shared purpose and mutual trust.

Widening access and supporting every student. Pate's is committed to ensuring that the brightest students have a realistic chance of accessing the school regardless of their background. Through our Shaping Futures programme, our outreach work, and our admissions approach, we actively work to widen access and to welcome students from the full diversity of our community.

Technology and digital learning. Governors recognise that technology – including artificial intelligence – is reshaping education at pace. We will ensure that Pate's embraces these developments thoughtfully and ambitiously, in ways that enhance the quality of learning and the life of the school, while protecting the wellbeing, safety, and human connections that are central to our values. Governors will satisfy themselves that the school's approach to technology is ethical, well-governed, and genuinely in the interests of every student.

