

The Governors

The role of the governing body:

The role of the governing body is a strategic one and involves three core functions:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Who can become a governor?

Anyone over the age of eighteen may apply to become a governor. Parent governors are chosen by the parents themselves. One governor has to be approved by the Local Authority but does not have to work for the local authority. Staff governors are chosen by the staff and co-opted governors with a range of skills are invited to join the governing body by the governors.

How do we carry out our work?

Our full governing body meets every month. At these meetings we report, review and plan on a wide range of issues. The agenda for each meeting is agreed in advance and it is timed. There is a finance committee that meets regularly with the school business manager to scrutinise the budget. The pay committee meets once a year with the headteacher. The chair of governors meets 1:1 with the headteacher on a regular basis. Minutes of all governor meetings are kept in the office and are available for people to read if they request them. Minutes containing confidential information are kept separately.

Each member of the governing body has roles and responsibilities. Governors make formal visits to school either individually, or sometimes working as a pair, to monitor their areas of responsibility. These visits are arranged beforehand with the headteacher and a written record is circulated to all governors following these visits. Governors also visit the school informally to attend special assemblies or school events. This way they get to know the pupils and staff and can see the school in action. Governors are also available for an informal chat at Parents' Evenings.

How can you contact the governors?

You may ring or email the school office and ask for a governor to contact you. Any concerns you have about your child's education should always be raised with the class teacher and/or the headteacher in the first instance.