



Governors

The Roles of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

The role of the school governor is demanding but can be very rewarding and is a good way to give back to your local community.

School Governing Bodies are responsible for working with the school to ensure it delivers a good quality education.

Working closely with the Headteacher the governing body help to set the school's aims and policies.

Governors have three main roles:

- * To provide strategic direction for the school
- * To act as a critical friend to the Headteacher
- * To ensure accountability



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

The governors at Whittlefield are a voluntary body who meet together, at least once a term, to discuss and make decisions on school issues. Most governors are elected every four years and represent:

- * The Local Authority
- * Parents
- * Teachers and support staff
- * Some Governors are 'co-opted' which means they are elected, by the Governing Body, to represent the local community and business.



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies.

In order to adequately fulfil their roles as governors a number of sub committee have been created with specific terms of reference. These are:

1. Standards and Curriculum Committee
2. Resources Committee

These committees meet termly and report back to the full Governing Body at full Governing Meetings.



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

The agenda for a Full Governing Body Meeting is generally set by the Chair of Governors, in consultation with the Headteacher. The Clerk will liaise with both, advising them on items that need to be included that term. Any Governor can also contact the clerk to add items for discussion.

Agenda items usually include:

- * Headteacher's report
- * Safeguarding
- * Local Authority Input
- * Financial issues
- * Approval and alterations to policies
- * School Development Plan and Self Evaluation



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

Governors carry out a number of important duties including:

1. Determining how the school's budget is spent
2. Appointing and dismissing staff
3. Hearing appeals and grievances
4. Forming policies on the school's curriculum
5. Setting standards of pupil's behaviour and discipline
6. Making sure school buildings are welcoming and safe
7. Setting and monitoring the school's aims and policies
8. ensuring safeguarding is effective



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

One activity undertaken by school governors is to visit the school to participate in learning walks during Governor Days.

School visits are an ideal way to see how the school works, what teachers do and how children learn. Focused school visits help the Governing Body to carry out the following statutory responsibilities:

1. Raise standards of achievement
2. To provide a strategic view and establish rules within which the headteacher and staff run the school
3. To monitor and evaluate the school effectiveness
4. To ensure accountability



The role of the School Governor and Governing Bodies

Governing bodies have the right to discuss, question and refine policies and procedures but **MUST** respect the professional judgement and the role of the headteacher as the day to day manager of the school on operational and curriculum matters.

