

THE GOVERNING BODY – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

School governors are people from the school's community who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. The governing body is made up of parents, staff, LA representatives, and other people from the community. All governors are equal and the decisions made by a governing body become a collective responsibility.

Governing bodies have many powers and areas of responsibility which must be carried out in close partnership with the school. This partnership requires that each party recognises the skills and expertise of the other - that of the educational professional and the knowledge, skills and competencies of governors. All parties must be dedicated to ensuring that every child has the best education possible: The focus of everything the governing body does is to ensure every child has the best education possible.

Parliament has given governing bodies a range of duties through the Education Acts and powers to carry these out. Broadly these are:

- To ensure every child makes the best possible progress
- to help decide school policy for management of the school with the headteacher and act as a link between the school and the local community
- to monitor progress after Ofsted inspection and towards the School Improvement Plan targets.
- setting appropriate targets for pupil achievement
- to ensure all children make progress in their personal development and wellbeing
- managing the school budget
- ensuring that the pupil premium is used for those children eligible for the funding and evaluate the impact of the spending
- determining the staffing of the school, determining the pay policy and making decisions about pay in accordance with the School Teachers Pay and Conditions of Employment document
- ensuring the curriculum for the school is balanced and broadly based and in particular that the National Curriculum and religious education are taught
- participating in the appointment of the headteacher
- ensuring that special education needs are met
- to act on complaints from parents appropriately in accordance with the school policy
- to hear appeals from parents when pupils are excluded from school
- make sure the school is safe and healthy
- ensuring that there is a performance management policy and set performance objectives for the headteacher

Governors have a responsibility to get to know the school as well as possible. They also have a responsibility for their development as a governor and to attend training as appropriate.