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**Generic role of a Governor**

As part of the governing board team, a governor is expected to

1. Contribute to the strategic discussions at FGB meetings which determine:

* the vision and ethos of the school
* clear and ambitious strategic priorities and targets for the school
* that all children, including those with special educational needs, have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
* the school’s budget, including the expenditure of the pupil premium allocation
* the school’s staffing structure and key staffing policies
* the principles to be used by school leaders to set other school policies

1. Hold executive leaders to account by monitoring the school’s performance; this includes

* agreeing the outcomes from the school’s self-evaluation and ensuring they are used to inform the priorities in the school development plan
* considering all relevant data and feedback provided on request by school leaders and external sources on all aspects of school performance
* asking challenging questions of school leaders ensuring senior leaders have arranged for the required audits to be carried out and receiving the results of those audits
* ensuring senior leaders have developed the required policies and procedures and the school is operating effectively according to those policies
* acting as a link governor on a specific issue, making relevant enquiries of the relevant staff, and reporting to the governing board on the progress on the relevant school priority
* listening to and reporting to the school’s stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff, and the wider community, including local employers

3. Ensure the school staff have the resources and support they require to do their jobs well, including the necessary expertise on business management, external advice where necessary, effective appraisal and CPD (Continuing Professional Development), and suitable premises and that the way in which those resources are used has impact.

The role of a governor is largely a thinking and questioning role, not a doing role. A governor does NOT:

* write school policies.
* undertake audits of any sort – whether financial or health & safety - even if the governor has the relevant professional experience.
* spend much time with the pupils of the school – if you want to work directly with children, there are many other voluntary valuable roles within the school.
* fundraise – this is the role of the PTA – the governing board should consider income streams and the potential for income generation, but not carry out fundraising tasks.
* undertake classroom observations to make judgements on the quality of teaching – the governing board monitors the quality of teaching in the school by requiring data from the senior staff and from external sources.
* do the job of the school staff; if there is not enough capacity within the paid staff team to carry out the necessary tasks, the governing board need to consider and rectify this.