

THE WORK OF THE GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of Churchfields carries out its role as part of the leadership and management of the school. Its purpose is not to interfere with the organisational day-to-day running of the school, which is the prime concern of the Head teacher, and the Senior Leadership team.

Individual governors do not have any power of their own, but can only influence strategic planning as part the discussions and decisions of the governing body. Distinct terms of reference for groups of governors, for example, for each of its sub-committees, are agreed and set down in a document called the Scheme of Delegation.

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| Governing Body – three core functions: The DfE clearly sets out the three main functions of a school's governing body. These are: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 |
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The work of the governing body, its committees and ad hoc working groups, defers to these three core functions at every level of its operation.

Governors need to have a working knowledge of the school, how pupils are taught and to ensure that they make at least expected progress year on year.

There are 'link' governors, who make a special effort to become familiar and to monitor the work of a particular aspect of the school, often connected to improvements set out in the current School Development Plan, such as teaching and learning in maths, science, and PE.

Governors will monitor the progress of the School's development plan over a 3-5 year period and look at the improvements that are being implemented. They are able to ask the Head teacher probing questions to check that the impact of the improvements is having the positive outcome that was intended.

Governors also look at the financial implications of improvements being put in place, such as the deployment of staff or the acquisition of resources. They are concerned that all money received by the school to help disadvantaged pupils, such as pupil premium or sports premium funds, are well spent and making a positive difference to the achievement of pupils in the school, across both bases.

Teachers are frequently asked to give a brief presentation to the governing body, or a committee, to keep governors up-to-date with the latest developments in their subject or area of responsibility. Governors are very aware of the hard work and dedication given by the staff at the school and the governing body likes to thank the staff for their continued commitment for the benefit of all the pupils at the school.