

A Brief Summary of the Role of a Governor & who our Governors are

Like all schools, we have a Governing Board which is made up of individuals from different walks of life who come together, along with the Head teacher, to form the Governing Board of our school. They play a vital role in the school community as they help to lead the school, evaluate its progress and ensure the school is always looking and moving forward. Governors are seen as part of the Leadership and Management of St John's Church of England Primary School.

The main duties of the Governors are:

- to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction within a Christian context
- to monitor standards of attainment and progress of pupils across the school
- to monitor the quality of educational provision across the school including the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum and opportunities for extra-curricular provision
- to hold the Head teacher and staff to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- to oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure its money is well spent

The majority of the work a Governor does is through the membership of our Governing Board which meet once every half term. The agenda for these meetings is agreed between the Head teacher and Chair of Governors, in consultation with local authority Governor Services. The meetings are clerked by a representative from Governor Services. We also have a Diocesan school adviser who works with the school, including Governors.

Any new legislation or policies that need to be adopted are addressed at the Full Governing Board meetings. The Head teacher submits a comprehensive half-termly report advising Governors of the different aspects of work undertaken in school and how different cohorts of children are progressing in their learning journey.

Many of the Governors have specific responsibilities, such as, inclusion, safeguarding and child protection. Nominated Governors also work alongside a member of the Senior Leadership Team and take responsibility for a key area within the School Improvement Plan. Progress towards each key area is reported at full Governing Body meetings held throughout the year.

Examples of Governor activities include:

- deciding how the budget should be spent, ensuring good value for money
- understanding the data to monitor whether or not the children are on track with regard to their expected progress from Reception through to Year 6, and what is done to support those who are not on track.
- making sure the school buildings are welcoming, safe, well used and fit for purpose
- setting and monitoring the school's values, aims and policies
- appointing staff and making sure appropriate professional development is provided together with ensuring the appraisal process is followed by the Head teacher
- visiting school to meet with staff and children to oversee their particular areas of responsibility

Training is important and enables Governors to increase their knowledge of different areas in order to ensure a successful school. Our Governors have access to regular training, which includes updates on finance, inspection, curriculum, safeguarding etc.

Our Governing Board is made up of 12 members:

2 x Parent Governors
1 x Local Authority Governor
1 x Staff Governor
1 x Head teacher
6 x Foundation Governors

We have 1 Foundation Governor vacancy

All Governors have full voting rights within the Governing Board and are appointed to serve for a four-year period.

Foundation Governors

Foundation Governors are nominated by the PCC (Parochial Church Council) and appointed by the DBE (Diocesan Board of Education). In most cases, one of the Foundation Governors will be the incumbent of the school's parish (vicar or St John's church) by virtue of their office. This is called an ex-officio Foundation Governor.

The Head teacher is also an ex-officio Governor and is automatically on the Governing Board.

Parents Governors

Parents, including carers, of pupils at the school are eligible to stand for election as parent governors. They are elected by other parents. The head teacher makes arrangements for holding an election if there is a vacancy for a parent governor at the school.

Staff Governor

Staff governors are elected by the school staff. Both teaching and support staff employed to work at the school are eligible for staff governorship; volunteers are not eligible. The head teacher makes arrangements for holding an election if there is a vacancy for a staff governor at the school.

Local Authority Governor

Local authority governors are nominated by the local authority (Blackpool Council) and appointed by the governing board. Anyone who is eligible to be a staff governor cannot be appointed as a local authority governor.

Associate Governor

Associate members can bring specific skills to the governing board or be appointed to tackle a particular problem or project by contributing particular expertise or experience, such as premises management or for a fundraising initiative. Associate Governors do not have voting rights within the Governing Board