

Who is on the Governing Body?

There are eight full members on our School's Governing Body which also has an option to co-opt a further two to fulfil short term strategies/skill shortages:

Current Governing Body:

3 Parent governors	elected by the parents of pupils at the school
1 Staff governor	elected by the staff of the school
1 Headteacher	Ex-officio
1 Local Authority governor	Nominated by Oxfordshire County Council
2 Foundation governors	Nominated by the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education
1 Co-opted governor (IT)	Appointed by the Governing Body

The full Governing Body usually meets three times a year (the July meeting includes elections for Chair and Vice Chair/allocation of responsibilities) plus a budget meeting in April. We also hold an annual review to evaluate our effectiveness as a team.

The Role of the Governing Body

The role of Governing Body is to agree the strategic direction and priorities for the school in order to maintain and improve the school's standards of education. As a Church School the Governors must also ensure they develop the school in a way that is consistent with its Church of England foundation (whilst still taking into account the needs and circumstances of all its pupils). A strategic role means the governors decide what they want the school to achieve and set the framework for getting there. This means Governors:

- Formulate a strategic approach to securing high standards of educational achievement
- Set appropriate targets for pupil achievement at Key Stage 1 and 2
- Ensure breadth and balance and delivery of the National Curriculum

- Report on assessments and examinations results
- Determine how to spend the budget allocated to the school
- Agree the number of staff (and their recruitment), the pay policy and making decisions on staff pay
- Agree procedures for staff conduct and discipline
- Ensure the headteacher and staff fulfil all their statutory requirements

These strategies and how to achieve them are summarised in the School's Development Plan. The plan then forms the basis of each Governors' meeting so that all governors can see how the school is progressing and deal with any shortfalls that arise.

Throughout the year governors visit the school to monitor the progress made either by observing the class and/or by meeting teachers to discuss a particular target in the plan. Governors focus on their strategic role not on day-to-day issues.

The Governor's role as a representative

Individual governors are elected for a term of 4 years as a group representative. They provide *appropriate* feedback about governing body decisions to the bodies that they represent and maintain communication links with them so that their suggestions, comments and guidance can be expressed at governors meetings.

Governors are the eyes and ears for the group that elected them but **they are not the definitive voice** and don't have to vote according to these bodies' views but should always think of the best interests of the school as a whole.