

Remit of the Governing Body

The Governing body is the strategic lead of the schools and has a vital role to play in making sure every child gets the best possible education. This is reflected in the law, which states that the purpose of maintained school governing bodies is to 'conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement at the school'.

The governing body at Callowell works with the school and its responsibilities and powers have to be exercised in conjunction with the Headteacher and staff. Individual governors have no power or responsibility. It is only the full governing body which has legal duties and powers and all governors share in that corporate responsibility. Governors do not intervene in the day to day management of the school, unless there is something seriously wrong. If there is a weakness in the school we will take action.

The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the headteacher and staff. The philosophy for running the school is a shared responsibility worked out by common consent.

Governors govern rather than manage. We are here to give direction and focus by performing a vital strategic role.

The Governing Body's key roles are:

- To provide strategic direction for the school. For example through the development and participation in the School Development Plan.
- To act as a critical friend to the headteacher. For example, responding to the Headteacher's Report, providing question and challenge through monitoring of the School Development Plan.
- To ensure accountability. For example through agreeing and monitoring the budget, and monitoring standards and progress in achievement.

Specifically, the governing body:

Is accountable for the performance of the school

helps shape the school's future direction

monitors and reviews the performance of the school

makes decisions about the school's budget and staffing

makes sure the school provides for all its pupils, including those with special needs

The Governing body is at the heart of how a school operates. It is important we get things right. How we do our job affects the interests of pupils, staff morale and how the school is seen by parents and others in the community. We are not here to rubber stamp decisions. Governors are responsible for how the school is performing. We have to be prepared to support and challenge the headteacher by gathering views, asking questions and deciding what's best for the pupils.

We undertake our own regular self evaluation and training to ensure we stay up to date and provide the very best support we can for the school.

The Governing Body is made up of volunteers, with members representing a range of interests and professions. As such we aim to provide a representative group of the local community.