



## **Radleys Primary School**

### **The Role of the Link Governor**

**There is no statutory duty to appoint link governors. However, we regard this as good practice and encourage all governors to take up a link post to involve all members of the governing body team.**

#### **The role of link governors**

If we think of a governing body as a chain, a link (or nominated) governor is an individual governor who has been asked to link up with a teacher, department or 'responsible person'.

The types of area for which link governors may take responsibility include:

- A particular subject, in conjunction with the subject co-ordinator or head of department
- A specific class
- Literacy or numeracy
- Special educational needs (SEND)
- Child protection and Safeguarding

#### **Activities and duties a link governor might undertake:**

- Making focused visits to the school
- Exploring specific aspects within the link area to gain deeper understanding of relevant issues
- Establishing regular contact with people within the school with responsibility for the link area
- Providing support and encouragement and a listening ear for staff members with whom they are linked
- Monitoring provision of equipment and use of school facilities
- Attending relevant training, including relevant INSET days
- Being involved with establishing/monitoring/evaluating relevant policies adopted by the governing body within their link area
- Becoming familiar with areas in the school development plan
- Reporting back after visits, making recommendations as appropriate either via committees or full governing body meetings
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#### **The benefits of link governors**

- Are a means to build up relationships based on mutual trust and respect, enabling effective governance and supporting school improvement
- Provide OFSTED with concrete evidence of the involvement of the governors in school and of the extent to which they are able to contribute to the school's self-evaluation process

- Can see first-hand the available resources in the classroom so that governing bodies can make informed decisions about future budget allocations and tie them to the school development plan priorities
- Can help the governing body to identify trends, put them into the context of the development plan, and act on them if appropriate

### **Deciding on responsibilities for link governors**

Governors' skills and experience should be matched with relevant responsibilities, where possible

### **Useful Websites:**

[Contact DfE, GOV.UK - DfE](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

### **The Key also has articles on a range of link governor roles:**

[The role of the special educational needs \(SEN\) governor](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/the-role-of-the-sen-governor)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/the-role-of-the-sen-governor>

[Link governors for looked after children](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/the-link-governor-for-looked-after-children)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/the-link-governor-for-looked-after-children>

[Link governors with responsibility for the community](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-community)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-community>

[Link governors with responsibility for equality](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-equality)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-equality>

[Link governors with responsibility for the pupil premium](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-the-pupil-premium)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-the-pupil-premium>

[Link governors with responsibility for literacy](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-literacy)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-literacy>

[Link governors with responsibility for numeracy](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-numeracy)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/link-governors-with-responsibility-for-numeracy>

[Role and responsibilities of safeguarding governors](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/role-and-responsibilities-of-safeguarding-governors)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/role-responsibilities/roles-specific-governors/role-and-responsibilities-of-safeguarding-governors>

[Subject and year group link governors](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/specific-governors-roles/link-governors/subject-and-year-group-link-governors/)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/specific-governors-roles/link-governors/subject-and-year-group-link-governors/>

### **Guidance on visiting school**

A key part of the link governor's role is going into school. Another article on The Key links to guidance on carrying out effective school visits.

[Visiting your school: guidance and forms for governors](http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/governors-core-role/visiting-your-school-guidance-for-governors)

<http://schoolgovernors.thekeysupport.com/the-governing-body/governors-core-role/visiting-your-school-guidance-for-governors>