

Frequently asked questions

Who is the governing body accountable to?

The governing body is accountable by law to Ofsted, the local community and the local authority.

Do governors get paid?

No. All governors are volunteers.

How do I become a governor?

Contact the chair of your governing body. When there's a vacancy for a parent governor all parents will be informed and you'll have the chance to stand for election. Parents can also be appointed as other categories of governor (for example, co-opted).

Can I approach the governors with concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Concerns and complaints should go to the school before coming to the governing body.

Where to go for more information

External information

For more information on the role of the governing body, see the government's Governance Handbook.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook>



Work of the governing body: maintained schools

Chair of governors: Mrs C Philipson

Vice-chair of governors: Mrs G Prockter

Clerk to the governing body: Mrs J Russell

You can contact the via the school:

Telephone 01332 862572

Email: office@st-hardulphs.leics.sch.uk

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What is the role of the governing body?

The governing body is responsible in law for the school, but it has a strategic role and doesn't get involved in operational matters like teaching or timetabling – these are the responsibility of the headteacher. The governing body holds the headteacher to account for her decisions.

All governing bodies have three main functions:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

The governing body holds the headteacher to account by monitoring and asking the right questions. This often includes visiting the school to look at specific areas, like safeguarding or behaviour.

Jargon buster

Pupil premium funding: The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to help raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.

Looked-after children: children who are provided with accommodation by the LA for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, or who are subject to a care or placement order

SEN: special educational needs

Co-opted governor: governors appointed on the basis of their skills or experience

What specific duties do governors have?

The governing body's duties include:

- Setting the vision and ethos of the school
- Appointing and appraising the headteacher
- Making sure the headteacher carries out her duties to appraise other teachers
- Making sure safer recruitment procedures are applied
- Ensuring the school has a written policy on sex and relationship education (SRE) that parents can see
- Approving and monitoring the school budget
- Ensuring that pupil premium funding is being spent on improving attainment for eligible pupils
- Appointing a designated teacher to promote the achievement of any looked-after children in the school
- Making sure the school complies with the Equality Act 2010, and publishing information on how it is doing this
- Ensuring the school has a policy on supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Appointing a member of staff to be the designated safeguarding lead and ensuring the school has effective policies and procedures in place to keep children safe
- Ensuring that special education provision is made for any pupil who has SEN, and that the school follows the statutory Code of Practice

What does this look like in our school?

Our governing body is made up of 2 parent governors, one staff governor, one local authority governor, 2 foundation governors, and 2 co-opted governors. We also have 2 associate members who sit on committees. Associate members are not governors and cannot vote at full governing body meetings.

Our governing body meets three times a year. We visit the school several times a year to monitor the progress towards our goals.

We have the following committees:

- Finance
- Achievement & Learning
- Behaviour, Safety & Communication

Each committee meets three times a year

We also have panels for the appraisal of the headteacher, pupil exclusions, staff grievances, staff discipline, and complaints. These meet when needed.