



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:

- Standards
- Curriculum
- Active Lifestyles
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- 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, if appropriate
- Attending relevant training, including relevant staff 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

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 to ensure the governing body has a robust and varied skill set that support the school to move forward, making effective use of funding and resources and provides objectivity.