

Bespoke Support for Governors

Do your Governors need guidance or support, struggling with a particular governance problem or are you looking to strengthen governance?

'The time and expertise of Governors needs to be better respected and deployed. Sometimes governing bodies lack the information or training to challenge effectively and support the head teacher and senior leadership of a school to improve.' (The Importance of Teaching: White Paper 2010)

In order to **meet your specific requirements** we are offering a framework of high quality support from a team of experienced School Governance Experts, all of whom are serving Governors with hands on experience of many aspects of Governance, including Chairing and Clerking.

Whole school programme of support:

- ★ Enhancing and promoting relationships within the Governing Body
- ★ Assistance with policies and procedures, for example, complaints, confidentiality, safeguarding
- ★ Improving the effectiveness of the Governing Body, for example by committee restructuring
- ★ Improve efficiency of specific roles within the Governing Body
- ★ Support Chairs in driving forward the work of the Governing Body
- ★ Any other issue facing a Governing Body

Programme outline:

- ★ A bespoke, 'hands on' service that complements the Schools' Learning & Development Training Package with visit times to suit Governors, either daytime or evening
- ★ Same dedicated Officer to enable a relationship to be built with the Governing Body
- ★ All sessions designed for your Governing Body, based on the needs of the school
- ★ External evaluation of your performance as a Governing Body ('You don't know what you don't know until someone tells you')
- ★ Sessions to empower Governors to hold the school to account

"Many thanks for attending the school today. We all thought it was one of the best informative sessions we have had as a Governing Body."

Chair of Governors,
St Andrew's Primary, Halstead

Cost

From half a day depending on the needs of your Governing Body.



Sessions that have proved effective for adding value to Governing Bodies include:

Description and cost (packages will be tailored for your individual school):

★ Ofsted Coaching - half day

- An intensive session with Chair, Vice Chair and other Governors, as required, to prepare Governors for their role in the Ofsted Inspection.

Note: *this does not replace the training session which is offered by the Schools Learning and Development Team, on Preparing for Ofsted. We would strongly urge that your Governing Body undertakes this as a Full Governing Body Development Session as it is important that all Governors understand the process of an Ofsted Inspection in order for you to support the school in its preparations for inspection.*

- The session will address all those areas that Governors could be judged on and provide guidance as to the documentation that Governors need to have in place and be familiar with.
- It is ideally completed at least a term before a possible inspection to give Governors an opportunity to ensure that everything is in place. However, as it is difficult to predict when a school may be inspected there is still benefit in doing the session at any time before an inspection.

★ Governors' Monitoring Visits - one day (a useful follow on from the Ofsted Coaching session which complements the Schools' Learning & Development session on Governor visits)

- Governor Visits can be daunting and this hands on session will empower Governors to conduct effective monitoring visits.
- It will help Governors implement their current Governor Visits Policy, or revise their existing policy; evaluate their protocols and procedures for visits; officers will model good practice in visits; look at how Governors can organise their visits to ensure that they are linked to school priorities; and help Governors develop their feedback and reporting mechanisms.

These are just examples of popular topics. Expert consultancy packages can be delivered according to your needs.

"Thank you for a very helpful and structured session this morning. We all found it most instructive and are already drawing up a revised agenda for our next Governing Body meeting to cover the points raised. I would really recommend that your service is offered to all Governing Bodies facing Inspection as your skills in helping us to identify our own strengths and weaknesses and the need to have evidence to hand was really useful."

Vice Chair of Governors,
Great Leighs Primary School



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