

Our job is set by the Government and is to:

- a. Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- b. Hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- c. Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.

These functions are reflected in regulations for maintained schools [LINK], to which we are subject.

Governors are also guided by the values of the school and set a strategy every 3-4 years which makes clear the overall aims and priorities which direct decision-making during that period.

Our strategy for 2015-18 seeks to raise students' attainment and results at GCSE and Alevels as measured by key performance indicators, and to close the gap in achievement between those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and other students in the school. We aim to do this whilst also promoting a strong creative and inclusive ethos at the school. This is an ambitious aim but we believe that pursuing attainment, creativity and inclusivity together is mutually beneficial and creates a strong and innovative agenda for continuous improvement at the school.

We meet twice a term to carry out these duties and to discuss progress with senior management. We also have two sub-committees: the finance and resources committee and the curriculum committee which look in more detail at key issues in these areas. Individual governors also have 'link' roles which focus on certain priorities in order to ensure that, in a busy and complex agenda, we don't lose sight of the important things we want to achieve. Ad hoc working groups see governors working with staff and associates to help the school move forward on key projects to support this work.

Governors also support the school in other ways including as members of panels for senior management recruitment, exclusions, appeals and serious Human Resources issues.

There are fourteen governors in total, comprising:

- five parent governors;
- one local authority governor;
- one staff governor;
- the headteacher; and
- six co-opted governors from a variety of relevant backgrounds including education, finance, equalities and human resources and including a further member of staff.

All of us serve a term of four years, which can be renewed. The relevant constituency elects the parent and staff governors every four years.