

Circle Model – Whole Governing Board Approach

The Governing Board works collectively as a 'whole team', meeting at least 6 times per year, without separate committees for Performance & Standards or Resources. An annual planner and agenda for each meeting will include all the tasks which the Governing Board is required to consider, and the Governing board may 'commission' assignments or activities arising from the business of the meeting, which will be recorded in the minutes.

In addition to 'commissioning' activities or actions on their behalf, the Governing board, to ensure its core functions are fulfilled, will delegate monitoring responsibilities to Governor 'monitoring pairs' or 'individuals'. These include the statutory required individual roles and those focused on the priorities of the School Plan. The Governing Board recognises the delegated monitoring individuals / pairs are replacing committees in terms of challenge, responsibility and accountability when undertaking their monitoring and reporting back to the Board.

In each case where a function has been delegated there is a statutory duty to report any action or recommended decision to the Governing board at the next meeting.

The purpose of governance is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance.

The Governing Board has resolved to conduct all its business as a Governing board, and to work collectively without performance or resources committees. There are however two committees for Head's Performance and Pay.

The Board has three strategic core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding Head teacher / Executive Leaders to account for the educational performance of the school / organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school / organisation and making sure its money is well spent.