

Key areas to consider and question

Asking questions is a vital part of your role as a governor. Think about the questions you could ask around the following areas and use the examples below as a starting point:

The quality of leadership and management

- Is the headteacher ambitious for the school?
- What is the headteacher doing to promote better teaching and learning?
- How good is the pupils' standard of behaviour?
- Which governors are responsible for performance managing the headteacher and is this effective in raising standards?
- Is there a clear succession plan in place for the school's leadership team?

Budget monitoring and planning

- When did the school last review the staffing structure?
- Does the governing board have adequate financial skills and knowledge to provide rigorous challenge and support?
- Does the planned budget match the priorities in the School Development Plan?

Pupil progress and attainment

- How does the school show evidence of pupil progress?
- How is this evidence used to raise standards further?
- How does the school recognise pupil achievement?
- How does the school work with parents and carers to help them support their children's learning?

Pupil attendance and safeguarding

- What is the school's agreed attendance target and what is the current attendance level?
- What strategies does the school use to improve attendance?
- Are the appropriate safeguarding policies in place and when were they last reviewed?
- Who is the safeguarding governor and when did they last attend safeguarding training?

SEND

- Has a link governor for SEND been appointed and who is the SEND co-ordinator?
- How many pupils are on each level of SEND support?
- How do the attendance and exclusion rates for pupils with SEND compare to those without?
- What is the progress and attainment of pupils with SEND compared to other pupils?