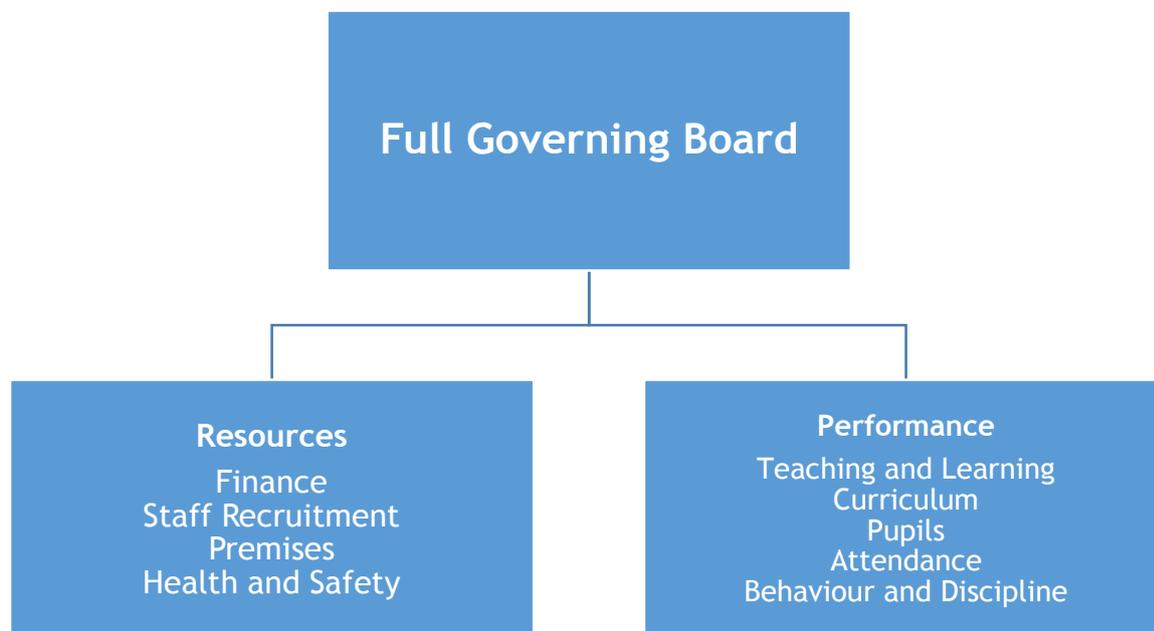


The Governing Board at The Westminster School

What we do

Formally the Full Governing Board meets four times a year and there are two sub-committees which meet three times a year. These are Resources and Performance.



As well as attending Full Board Meetings and sitting on at least one of the sub-committees, all Governors attend an annual review and planning day and are actively encouraged to be involved in the life of the School. Governors are expected to meet termly with School middle and senior leaders in order to monitor progress. These visits are reported back to the Governing Board in the form of a written report.

The Governing Board, as in all schools, has three major roles:

1. To determine and ensure the clarity of the School's vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. To hold the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the School and its pupils, and for the Performance Management of staff.
3. To make sure that money is well spent.

At the beginning of each year we ensure that Governors set targets as part of the School Development Plan. This year our key objectives are:

1. To further develop the Governors' role in monitoring and evaluating pupil progress, the School Development Plan targets, and staff performance.
2. To develop a highly skilled and effective Governing Board.
3. For the Governors to support the School in using the knowledge it has about the stakeholders view to inform strategic planning and future development.

Governor Training

Governors have access to regular training in support of their role. This year, all Governors have attended training on:

- Safeguarding
- Pupil Premium
- Government PREVENT Strategy
- E-Safety
- The Management of Stress

Alongside this, individual Governors have improved their skills and knowledge by attending courses on topics including Bichard Safer Recruitment, Health and Safety, The Role of the Chair and Finance.

We carry out an annual Skills Audit to ensure that the Governing Board has the necessary expertise to be able to function effectively. As a result of this we have targeted specific training courses and have appointed two new members to the Board this year.

As well as reviewing our performance following every meeting and at our annual review day, we recently commissioned two external agencies to review our performance and progress. These were [Governor Mark](#), run by the National Governors Association, and [Governor Quality](#), run by Newport Education and Sandwell SIPS Education.

Governors review all policies on a programmed basis to ensure that all guidance is current, up-to-date and complied with. These are then uploaded to the School website. Specific attention is paid to ensure that the School complies with the Department for Education mandatory policy list.

The Chair of Governors meets with the Head Teacher at least once per fortnight to review elements of the School Development Plan.

This year had provided a number of significant challenges to the School and its Governors. These have included increased financial/budgeting pressures, the development of a completely new assessment system and a rapidly evolving curriculum. Governors receive regular reports and guidance about all of these initiatives and are regularly measuring their impact as a result of their visits to School and questioning of senior leaders at meetings. They continue to ensure that careful financial management and planning takes place in order to address the Principles of Best Value and procure the necessary resources to support future new developments.