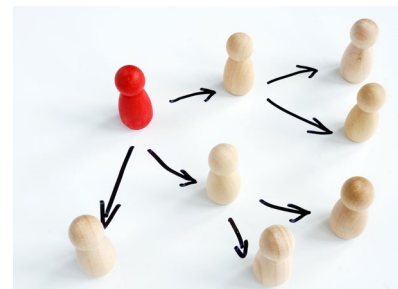


Essential Questions for Effective Governance

A Resource for Governors



Alongside the webinar, this resource has been created to:

- ✓ Support and guide school governors in posing insightful questions.
- ✓ Help governors understand their roles within the school and know what they are responsible for.
- ✓ Provide a framework on how to work effectively with Headteachers and Senior Leaders.
- ✓ Foster teamwork to support the development and growth of the school for the whole school community.

This is not an exhaustive list of questions and should not be followed as a script, but it covers key areas that will be particularly useful.

For further support and guidance, please explore our training programmes and packages on our website.

Student Achievement:

- Are Key Stage assessment tests/overall GCSE or A-level results concealing limited progress?
- How does the school's performance compare to similar schools?
- Are all our pupils achieving their potential or could they achieve more?
- Are the most able pupils stretched and challenged sufficiently? What evidence do we have for this?
- Does the school analyse and respond to data about rates of progress for subjects and groups of pupils?
- Has the school identified which pupils or groups of students are most at risk of underperforming?
- How does the school ensure that underperformance is identified quickly, whether in one subject or across multiple subjects?

The Quality of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment:

- How good is teaching throughout the school, and how do we know?
- What proportion of lessons have been judged to be good or better?
- What proportion of teaching requires improvement or is inadequate?
- What action is being taken to improve the quality of teaching?
- How are we supporting our less effective teachers?
- How is the best classroom practice in our school shared to benefit all our teachers?
- How are we developing teaching through the professional development provision at the school?

Personal, Emotional Development, and Behaviour:

- How well do pupils behave in lessons, and how do we know?
- How well do pupils behave around the school?
- Do pupils have a positive attitude towards school and learning?
- What measures are in place to ensure the behaviour policy is applied consistently across the school?
- How good are attendance and punctuality?
- Is bullying a cause for concern, and how are bullying addressed?
- Are safeguarding procedures fully in place?

Effective Governance:

- Do we understand the differences between the headteacher's operational role and the governing body's strategic role?
- Do governors receive meeting papers/information 7 days in advance?
- Does the Clerk provide professional support to enable the governing body to work efficiently?
- Do we work well as a team?
- Are we aware of the skills each governor has to offer? Are these appreciated and used?
- How do we celebrate the school's successes?
- How does the governing body monitor the work of the school?
- How does the governing body engage with the leadership team? Are senior leaders held accountable and supported by the governing body?
- How do we know our pupils receive a broad and balanced education?
- Does the school website meet statutory requirements?
- How can we improve our effectiveness?
- What has been the governing body's contribution to school improvement?
- What are the governing body's priorities for the coming year?

Effective Governance - an Individual Contribution:

- Am I familiar with and have I signed the governing body's Code of Conduct?
- Do I attend all governing body meetings and send apologies when I am not available, giving the reason for non-attendance?
- Do I come to meetings prepared with all the necessary papers and ready to ask questions?
- Does the governing body know what skills I have to offer?
- How well do I know my fellow governors?
- How well do I know the staff in the school?
- How often do I visit the school in an official capacity?
- Do I attend governor training and/or access governor training and development?

To discuss the above further, please contact Mr Costa Constantinou at constantinou@veema.co.uk.



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