

## **Ofsted Inspections**

**Ofsted inspectors judge the effectiveness of a school's governance.**

**Inspectors will look at the extent to which governing bodies:**

- ❖ carry out their statutory duties, such as safeguarding, and understand the boundaries of their role as governors
- ❖ ensure that they and the school promote tolerance of and respect for people of all faiths (or those of no faith), cultures and lifestyles; and support and help, through their words, actions and influence within the school and more widely in the community, to prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain
- ❖ ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction, including long-term planning (for example, succession)
- ❖ contribute to the school's self-evaluation and understand its strengths and weaknesses, including the quality of teaching, and reviewing the impact of their own work
- ❖ understand and take sufficient account of pupil data, particularly their understanding and use of the school data dashboard
- ❖ assure themselves of the rigour of the assessment process
- ❖ are aware of the impact of teaching on learning and progress in different subjects and year groups
- ❖ provide challenge and hold the headteacher and other senior leaders to account for improving the quality of teaching, pupils' achievement and pupils' behaviour and safety, including by using the data dashboard, other progress data, examination outcomes and test results; or whether they hinder school improvement by failing to tackle key concerns or developing their own skills
- ❖ use the pupil premium and other resources to overcome barriers to learning, including reading, writing and mathematics
- ❖ ensure solvency and probity and that the financial resources made available to the school are managed effectively
- ❖ are providing support for an effective headteacher
- ❖ monitor performance management systems and understand how the school makes decision about teachers' salary progression, including performance management of the headteacher, to improve teaching, leadership and management.
- ❖ engage with key stakeholders
- ❖ are transparent and accountable, including in terms of recruitment of staff, governance structures, attendance at meetings and contact with parents and carers.

These criteria include a strong focus on how governing bodies use data to challenge and hold the headteacher to account, and how they evaluate their own

impact and develop their own skills.

In every inspection report, inspectors will comment on the quality of governance as part of their overall judgement on the quality of the school's leadership and management. These criteria will help to make sure good governance gets the praise it deserves. They will also help inspectors identify when a school's governance is not good enough.