

What do governors do?

The role of governance can be summed up under three core headings:

- **Ethos and Strategic Direction**

Ensuring clarity of vision, mission and core values of the school. Particularly in a church school, we ensure that the school has a Christian core, no matter what faith the children come from.

- **Educational Performance**

Holding the headteacher accountable for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.

- **Use of Resources**

Overseeing the financial performance of the school, making sure its money is well spent, and overseeing issues of the building and health and safety.

This is a **strategic** rather than an operational role. As governors, we are expected to have an overview of school life rather than a day-to-day, hands-on role. We already have a highly professional staff doing that.



As governors, we can bring in a **whole range of skills** from our own professional lives to add to the skills of our staff team. These enable us to provide critical support to the headteacher, oversee the best use of the budget and ensure the safeguarding for our children is in place.

The governing body **meets monthly** throughout the school year. Our meetings enable us to receive and question updated progress reports, reports on academic achievement, scrutinise budgets, have updates on how the school is implementing its vision, review the school's policies and generally have an overview of the life of the school.

In addition, governors take **responsibility for one specific aspect of school life** such as safeguarding, special educational needs, or religious education. There are also sub-committees dealing with such matters as admission, the criteria of which are set by the school's governing board.

Meeting dates can be found on the school website:

www.stjamesenfield.org.uk,

then main menu item '*Governors*'.

Who are the governors?

A range of people sit on the Governing Body of the school:

By virtue of their position (ex-officio)

- Ms Joanna Dimmock as the school's **headteacher**
- Revd Ian Gallagher as the **vicar** of St James' church

Two governors are elected from the **parents**.

One governor is appointed from among the school's **staff**.

Other governors are appointed by

- The London Borough of Enfield
- St James' Church Council
- The London Diocesan Board for Schools

We are looking for able, engaging and committed people to join the school's Governing Body. *Might that be you?* If so, we'd love to hear from you. Please make contact with the school for enquiries.

More information, plus details of the governors' business interests can be found in the governors' section of the school website.



The Governing Body of St James' Church of England Primary School



**Information for parents,
carers and the community**