



Middlewich Primary School Statement of Governance



The three core strategic functions of the Middlewich Primary School Governing Board are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Board of Middlewich Primary School was re-constituted in 2012 and is now made up of 1 Local Authority Governor, 5 Co-opted Governors (consisting of 2 parents, members of the local community and 1 former teacher), 2 Staff Governors (including the Headteacher), and 1 Parent Governor.

The full Governing Board now meets each half term under the circle model of governance, where all governors are involved in every area of governance rather than splitting work across several committees. This approach ensures that all governors share equal responsibility and have a clear and consistent overview of the school's strategic priorities. We have retained one standing committee, the Staffing Committee (formerly the Pay Committee), which meets once a year during the autumn term.

We also have additional committees that meet if required, for example to consider pupil discipline and staffing matters. All governors have additional roles of responsibility as link or leads in specific areas. They meet with key members of staff to evaluate different aspects of the school's work.

See the governor section on the school website for a list of roles and responsibilities.

Attendance Record of Governors

Governors have excellent attendance at meetings and we have not needed to cancel meetings because they were not "quorate" (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made). See attendance document for details of individual governors' attendance at meetings.

The Work of our Committees

Under the circle model, the Governing Body works as a whole to maintain a continuous focus on school improvement as identified in the School Development & Improvement Plan.

Staffing Committee

The Staffing Committee meets once a year in the autumn term to ratify all pay decisions

following performance management reviews.

Additional committees may also be convened when required, for example to consider pupil discipline or staffing matters.

Policies and Practice

One of the roles for the governors is to review and agree all policies. Each year we review a wide range, including Behaviour Management, Safeguarding, Complaints, Teacher Appraisal, Health and Safety, Whistle Blowing, Special Educational Needs and Curriculum. There is a planned programme for policy review that is followed consistently.

Minutes of Governing Board and Committee meetings are public documents – you can either find them on the Governors' page of our website, ask at the school office or see them on display on the notice board outside the Headteacher's office.

Future Plans for The Governors

Our annual staff/governor review meeting takes place each summer, where we celebrate our achievements and identify the areas for improvement in the next academic year. We are also actively looking to recruit new governors to further strengthen the Governing Board, following several departures last year due to retirement and personal reasons.

How you can contact the governing board

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mr David Atkinson, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings; minutes of governing body meetings and more information about what we do, on the notice board outside Mrs Reynold's office or on Governors' page of the school website.