

“Ofsted expectations and the role of governors”

**The briefing for Chairs and Vice-Chairs of
Governing Bodies from the Director of the
Children’s Service**

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Ofsted inspections from September 2012

- A new Ofsted “Inspection Handbook”
- The importance of good governance and the role of governors in the strategic drive for school improvement has been given even more emphasis than previously
- Copies of the handbook are available at:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/school-inspection-handbook>

- There is a section on the quality of leadership and management, including governance (pp 42-47)
- Subsidiary guidance can be found at:
- <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/subsidiary-guidance-supporting-inspection-of-maintained-schools-and-academies>

Latest debate and discussion

Parliamentary debate 24 October 2012

We need to think how we can adapt the role and recruitment of governors for the challenges ahead in the education system.

We need governors who can

- *challenge the performance of the head teacher*
- *who are able and willing to take tough and rigorous decisions*
- *who are also capable of understanding, analysing and drawing appropriate conclusions from the amazing amount of data and information that fly around*

Governance & some of the latest guidance for inspectors

Pupil premium

- what is the school spending the PP premium money on
- why is it being spent it in this way
- how it is making a difference for their disadvantaged pupils (narrowing the gap)
- how governors are holding their schools to account for the way in which this money is spent

Governance & some of the latest guidance for inspectors

Governance

- knows what is happening in the school and whether overall provision is good - or not
- knows about the quality of teaching, the use of performance management, what is being done to recognise and reward good teachers and also what is being done to tackle underperformance
- understands the data and the comparative performance of the school in relation to similar schools
- has a handle on the budget, particularly the pupil premium and whether this is being used to close the gap for poor children
- ensures that governors are being professionally trained and developed.