



**Mike Whitaker – Chair of Governors**

I have been a governor at Winsford High Street for a number of years and am currently the Chair. I am very proud, pleased and privileged to be associated and involved with such a good school. I enjoy working with the staff and children and seeing the school develop and flourish. I call into school whenever possible and enjoy meeting the School Council and other children in their classes. I have been fortunate to visit the children on some of their residential visits and share the belief that the first hand experiences which the school provides the children are most valuable. I specifically enjoy the children's performances which I am invited to. I also enjoy my role as Special Educational Needs Governor and finding out how the children with such needs, progress through the school.

Prior to becoming a governor I worked in the education sector as a teacher and a Head Teacher. I spent the latter stages of my career as the Chair of the Cheshire Association of Primary Head Teachers and as a lecturer at Universities of Chester and Edge Hill.



Tempest ©

**Chris Anderson – Vice Chair of Governors**

I was a teacher at Winsford High Street for eighteen years and retired in July 2015. I loved teaching and being part of the High Street community and felt that I still have something to offer the school so continued my role as co-opted governor. I have since become Vice Chair of Governors and am a member of the Resources Committee. In this role I feel that I am still working on behalf of all members of the school community to ensure that the school continues to provide for the children the best education possible. I attend meetings of the Humanities Curriculum team and the Y1/2 Base team. I enjoy coming into school to watch performances, attend residential and day visits and seeing the school in action

## Frequently asked questions

### *Who is the governing body accountable to?*

The governing body is accountable by law to Ofsted, the local community and the local authority.

### *Do governors get paid?*

No. All governors are volunteers.

### *How do I become a governor?*

Contact the chair of your governing body. When there's a vacancy for a parent governor all parents will be informed and you'll have the chance to stand for election. Parents can also be appointed as other categories of governor (for example, co-opted).

### *Can I approach the governors with concerns?*

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Concerns and complaints should go to the school before coming to the governing body.

## Where to go for more information

### External information

For more information on the role of the governing body, see the government's Governance Handbook.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook>

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# Work of the governing body: maintained schools

Chair of governors: Mike Whitaker

Vice-chair of governors: Chris Anderson

Clerk to the governing body: Amanda Broome

You can contact the governors by phoning the school on 01606 288188 or by email to [chair@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:chair@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk)

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## What is the role of the governing body?

The governing body is responsible in law for the school, but it has a strategic role and doesn't get involved in operational matters like teaching or timetabling – these are the responsibility of the head teacher. The governing body holds the head teacher to account for his decisions.

All governing bodies have three main functions:

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

The governing body holds the head teacher to account by monitoring and asking the right questions. This often includes visiting the school to look at specific areas, like safeguarding or behaviour.

## What specific duties do governors have?

The governing body's duties include:

- Setting the vision and ethos of the school
- Appointing and appraising the head teacher
- Making sure the head teacher carries out his duties to appraise other teachers
- Making sure safer recruitment procedures are applied
- Ensuring the school has a written policy on sex and relationship education (SRE) that parents can see
- Approving and monitoring the school budget
- Ensuring that pupil premium funding is being spent on improving attainment for eligible pupils
- Appointing a designated teacher to promote the achievement of any looked-after children in the school
- Making sure the school complies with the Equality Act 2010, and publishing information on how it is doing this
- Ensuring the school has a policy on supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Appointing a member of staff to be the designated safeguarding lead and ensuring the school has effective policies and procedures in place to keep children safe
- Ensuring that special education provision is made for any pupil who has SEN, and that the school follows the statutory Code of Practice

## What does this look like in our school?

*Winsford High Street  
Community Primary School*

Our governing body is made up of three parent governors, three staff governors, one local authority governor, and five co-opted governors.

Our governing body meets 6 times a year. We visit the school at least three times a year to monitor the progress towards our goals. We also join staff meetings as and when possible.

We have the following committees:

- Resources and Finance
- Environment

Each committee meets six times a year

We also have panels for the appraisal of the head teacher, pupil exclusions, staff grievances, staff discipline, and complaints. These meet when needed.

### Jargon buster

**Pupil premium funding:** The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to help raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.

**Looked-after children:** children who are provided with accommodation by the LA for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, or who are subject to a care or placement order

**SEN:** special educational needs

**Co-opted governor:** governors appointed on the basis of their skills or experience