

Stanton Bridge Primary School



Governors Visiting Policy Summer 2017 - 2020

Visits to school by Governors

Our Governors have a strong overview knowledge of the school's improvement priorities and rely on a number of different sources in order to measure the impact of the work undertaken by the school. Some of this evidence is gathered from first hand experiences during their monitoring visits. This is arranged with the school in advance and then used to feedback to the whole Governing Body.

Aims:

The aim of the visits are to:

- Celebrate success
- Improve governors' knowledge of school's work and outcomes
- See policies in action
- Enable better decisions to be made
- See how resources are used
- Provide opportunity for discussion
- Hold staff to account

Types of visits:

- Events
- Celebration assemblies
- School Performances
- SDP meetings
- Other agreed/invited events

Protocols:

- Make arrangements at least a week in advance in agreement with the HT or relevant staff member
- Agreeing and maintaining confidentiality
- Agreeing purpose of the visit
- Sticking to the purpose
- Any learning walks, to be accompanied by a qualified practitioner in school
- Meeting with HT/SLT to discuss findings from school visit
- Report back on what you observed to governors at the next Governors meeting

Being sensitive

What is required of governors is that you have a general idea of the performance of the school rather than a detailed knowledge of it. Governors are not in a position to make judgments about a teacher's performance such as those judgments made by qualified teachers, professional advisers and inspectors. Neither should a governor use a school visit to check on the progress of an individual pupil such as their own children nor that of a friend. The visit should be of a reasonable length and not be an imposition of the teacher or stop them carrying out their work. If these kinds of precaution are not taken or teachers and other staff cannot see any benefit in the visit, they are likely to see the visit as an imposition rather than a positive and helpful experience.

Preparations for the visit

- Make contact via email to arrange for a convenient date, time and length of visit.
- Establish purpose of the visit.
- Part complete the form in appendix I 'Governor's (') visit to school form'
- Always helpful if a governor visiting a school has read beforehand any supporting information about the area you are visiting, e.g. OFSTED report, performance data, governing body policy.

What to do during the visit

Often the purpose of the visit will suggest what you actually do when you are there. Here are some of the visit activity suggestions:

- Talk to pupils about their learning in a particular area
- Learning walk looking at displays, health and safety
- Look at learning experiences of pupils in the class, focusing on a particular group: SEND, pupil premium pupils, ethnic group, boys or girls or LAC pupils (where appropriate)
- Look at pupils' work
- Meet with subject leaders and discuss their work

Review of Policy

Autumn: 2020

Governor's Visit to School Form

Name:	Area of responsibility:
Date:	
Visiting:	
Objectives of the visit: 1. 2. 3.	
Brief Notes:	
Comments on the visit:	
Questions raised by the visit:	