

Model for excellence

The key role of a Governing Body is to have a positive impact on the school and the performance and progress of the pupils. The diagram below is to help you understand our model of working.



...and finally

The role of school governors is changing, our responsibilities are becoming greater, and our accountability and effectiveness is increasingly going to be judged by external bodies such as OFSTED.

The only way the school can be considered Outstanding is if we as governors are **Outstanding in everything we do.**

As a Governing Body, we are committed to improving outcomes for staff and pupils across the Federation. As Chair of the Governing Body I am proud to work with such a dedicated and professional group of people.

Our work as Governors will not be as successful without your on-going and invaluable support.

Garry Strutt
Chair of Governors

Please contact the school via email or in writing if you have any questions.



Altmore & Lathom Schools Federation

Governors Roles and Responsibilities

The role of a Governor is to help the Headteacher and senior leaders make the right decisions and take the right actions to have a positive impact upon the school and the pupils.

Altmore Infant School, Altmore Avenue, East Ham,
London, E6 2BX (Tel: 020 8472 3555)

Lathom Junior School, Lathom Road, East Ham,
London, E6 2DU (Tel: 020 8472 0386)



Governors Key Roles & Responsibilities

The three core functions of a governing body, as reflected in OFSTED's inspection criteria are:

- Setting vision, ethos and strategic direction, engaging stakeholders, and ensuring statutory duties are met.
- Holding heads to account for teaching, achievement, behavior and safety; challenging and strengthening leadership; contributing to school self-evaluation.
- Ensuring financial solvency and probity with effective management of financial resources, including the Pupil Premium, and other government grants like the Sports Premium, to raise standards.

Governors Commitments

- Attendance at all GB meetings (1 per term + 1 separate meeting to agree budgets)
- All papers to be read in advance of meetings
- 2 x 0.5 day pre-arranged school visits

(Plus written report after each visit to the school)



Our Core Business as Governors:

The Governing Body at Altmere and Lathom Schools Federation aims to provide for both pupils and staff a working environment in which all individuals are **valued**.

We aim to give **equal access** to the curriculum so that all pupils receive a **broad** and **balanced** education which meets their individual needs as well as taking the wider expectations of society into account.

We have **high expectations** of all pupils whatever their starting points.

Our intent is to **create independent learners** through a combination of practical learning experiences and more structured teacher directed sessions.

We believe in taking our pupils out of school on as many trips and visits as possible to enhance their learning.

We strive to serve not only the needs of our pupils and their families but also the community of which we are part.

Working for you and with you...

Just because someone says something is true, can we accept it as being true?

Governors are ultimately **accountable**, so if we are being told that the school is doing well, **we will need to be able to see the evidence to back this up.**

If we are being told the school is spending its budget wisely - how do we know? What evidence do we have? And most importantly can we prove it? **We will keep you informed about spending in our updates to you.**

Our Challenge:

To act as the **"critical friend"** to the Leadership and Management Team of the school and ask challenging questions.

"Critical friend" is the right description of our role as governors - we are the only ones who will/can ask the Leaders of the school these challenging questions on your behalf.

We are the only ones who can hold the Headteacher and Senior Leaders to account. This is not undermining the Headteacher/Leaders or questioning their judgment (remember as well as critical there is also the word **friend**), we are all part of the same team and share the same goals and ambitions for the school.