

1

The right people around the table



Building a successful team is all about achieving balance and diversity in skills and experience and then investing in the development of people.



2

Understanding the role and responsibilities

The role of the governing board is a strategic one with three core responsibilities.



3

Good chairing

The role of the chair of governors or trustees should be viewed in the same light as that of the chair of the board in any other sector. The chair leads the governing board ensuring it fulfils its functions well.

A professional clerk is essential to an effective and efficient governing board and its committees. The enormous value of a good clerk as legal adviser should not be underestimated.

4

Professional clerking



We expect that governing boards and school leaders will jointly develop effective working practices which are mutually supportive and respectful of each other's roles and responsibilities.



5

Good relationships based on trust

Governing boards hold their schools to account and ensure high standards and outcomes for young people. To do this, governors and trustees need to know their school's strengths and weaknesses.



6

Knowing the school: data, children, parents, staff & community

One of the three core responsibilities is holding headteachers to account for the performance of the school. A vital part of doing so is asking challenging questions.



Commitment to asking challenging questions

7



A truly courageous conversation is more than just asking challenging questions – it involves following up on the answers and ensuring that changes are made.



Confidence to have courageous conversations in the interest of children and young people

8