



Governor Mark

Recognising high quality school governance.

Evidence Grid Section 5-8



Supported By the DCSF



Criterion 5: Strategic Leadership

Sub criterion 5a The governing body is at the heart of strategic planning,	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body in consultation with the head teacher and senior leadership team determines the strategic priorities for school improvement based on rigorous school self evaluation					
ii) The governing body has a high level of strategic influence, brought to bear in decision making and makes a major contribution to the leadership of the school					
iii) The governing body in consultation with the head teacher and senior leadership team reviews and determines: a) the staffing complement and structure when appropriate e.g. when vacancies arise and b) the leadership structure. Reviews will include consideration of alternative structures					
iv) The governing body can effectively apply the procedures for the appointment of a new head teacher					
Totals for 5a					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 5b The governing body is actively engaged in both Policy formulation and review					Evidence reference
i) The governing body participates in policy making and ensures that the community can contribute, where appropriate, to ensure that policies reflect the distinctive nature of the school					
ii) The governing body has a plan to regularly review policies to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and that all statutory policies are in place					
iii) The governing body has evidence that actual practice reflects policy					
Totals for 5b					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 5c The governing body deploys resources effectively in support of the school development cycle	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body has achieved the Financial management Standards in Schools (FMSiS)					
ii) The governing body has a clear timetable for school development/improvement planning and organises meetings to fit in with the development/improvement cycle					
iii) The governing body sets the school budget to reflect the priorities in the school's development plan and is active in monitoring and amending financial decisions throughout the cycle to keep within the budget					
iv) The governing body effectively and efficiently deploys resources to achieve value for money					
v) The governing body is adept at longer term budget planning, including capital spending and Asset Management priorities					
Totals for 5c					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Criterion 5d The governing body is active in target setting and promoting the raising of standards	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body is focused on raising standards and promoting the personal development and well-being of all learners					
ii) The governing body sets challenging targets including statutory targets and include these in the school improvement/development plan					
iii) The governing body receives a report from the school improvement partner and acts upon them					
iv) The governing body is focused on raising standards including the setting of challenging performance targets					
Totals for 5d					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 5e Performance Management and pay	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body has a performance management policy and ensures that all teachers, including the head teacher, and staff are appraised in accordance with statutory requirements.					
ii) The governing body receives a report annually on the implementation of the performance management policy for all staff, and ensures it is fit for purpose					
iii) The governing body appoints performance management governors for head teacher appraisal and they work effectively with the school improvement partner in the appraising head teacher performance and setting of objectives consistent with school improvement priorities					
iv) The governing body is clear about its responsibilities with regard to staff pay					
Totals for 5e					You must have at least 50% BP or FC
TOTALS for CRITERION 5					You must have at least 15 BP /FC overall in criterion 5.

Criterion 6: Statutory Responsibilities

Sub criterion 6a The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements relating to the Curriculum (brackets refer to part C of the SEF)	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body ensures that every learner receives the full statutory curriculum that the school must provide (C1)					
ii) The governing body ensures that the school provides teaching of religious education for all learners in accordance with the agreed syllabus or otherwise and has told parents of the right to withdraw their children (C2)					
iii) The governing body ensures that the school provides a daily act of collective worship for all learners and has told parents of the right to withdraw their children and, where relevant, 6 th formers of their own right to withdraw (C3)					
iv) The governing body has ensured that the school meets its statutory responsibilities relating to sex and relationships education (C4, C5 & C6)					The inclusion of all learners is central to the vision of the governing body and it is successful in pursuing this and removing barriers to learning
v) The school meets fully the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (C7)					
Totals for 6a					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 6b The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements relating to equality and diversity	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body ensures that the school does not discriminate against learners, job applicants or staff on the grounds of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, or age (C8)					
ii) The governing body has a gender equality scheme, has arrangements to monitor its implementation and assess its impact on staff, learners and parents (C9)					
iii) The governing body has a race equality policy, has arrangements to monitor its implementation and assess its impact on staff, learners and parents (C10)					
iv) The governing body has a disability equality scheme, has arrangements to monitor its implementation and assess its impact on staff, learners and parents (C11)					
Totals for 6b					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 6c The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements relating to Special Educational Needs (SEN)	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body ensures that the school has regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice when meeting learners difficulties and/or disabilities (C12)					
ii) The governing body publishes and informs parents/ carers of its accessibility plan and disability equality scheme and reports annually on progress (C13)					
iii) The school has a SENCO who has received training (C14)					
Totals for 6c					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Criterion 6d The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements relating to health, safety and well-being of staff and pupils	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body has robust procedures for ensuring that the school meets all relevant health and safety legislation (C15)					
ii) The governing body ensures that the school has procedures for safeguarding which follow the requirements of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (or equivalent) , is made available on request to parents/carers, and that this compliance is monitored regularly. (C16)					
iii) Where food is provided, current DCSF standards are met (C17)					
iv) The school complies with welfare requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) (C18)					
v) The school provides appropriate careers education, information and advice (C19)					
Totals for 6d					You must meet criterion 6d(ii) and have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 6e: The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements when informing parents/guardians	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body ensures that all statutory assessments are conducted and results are forwarded to parents/guardians and appropriate bodies (C20)					
ii) The governing body ensures that every year a report on each pupil's educational achievements is forwarded to their parents/guardians (C21)					
iii) The governing body ensures that the school keeps parents and prospective parents informed by publishing a school prospectus (C22)					
Totals for 6e					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 6f The governing body ensures that the school complies with the statutory requirements relating to leadership and management	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) i) Where applicable, the governing body has met financial management standards in schools (C23)					
ii) The responsibilities of the governing body, its committees, the head teacher and staff in respect of finances are clearly defined and limits of delegated authority are delineated (C24)					
iii) The governing body has a performance management policy and monitors its implementation (C25)					
iv) The governing body has secured appropriate employment conditions for teachers and the head teacher, including performance management and induction. (C26)					
v) The governing body has all relevant complaints and appeals procedures, as set out in the DCSF Guide to the Law (C27)					
vi) The governing body fulfils the requirement to promote Community Cohesion (C28)					
vii) The governing body meets the current government requirements on safer recruitment (C29)					
viii) the governing body ensures that all child care is registered where this is required by the Childcare Act 2006, and complies with necessary registration requirements. (C30)					
Totals for 6f					You must have at least 50% BP or FC
TOTALS for CRITERION 6					You must meet criterion 6d(ii) and have at least 20 BP /FC overall in criterion 6.

Criterion 7: Strengths and Weaknesses

Sub criterion 7a: The governing body has a planned and robust approach to monitoring and evaluation	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body (and committees of the governing body) has agreed how it will effectively monitor the quality of provision within the school					
ii) Governors know how and when the school compares nationally and with similar schools					
iii) Governors know how staff evaluate pupil standards and track pupil progress					
Totals for 7a					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 7b The governing body uses performance data as a basis for evaluating the school					Evidence reference
i) The governing body collects and analyses the views of learners, parents/carers and other stakeholders					
ii) The governing body collects and analyses performance data on achievement and standards (e.g. RAISEonline data, etc) including data relating to attendance and behaviour					
iii) The governing body effectively monitors and evaluates school progress					
iv) The governing body has evaluation measures to measure the overall personal development and well-being of the learners					
Totals for 7b					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 7c The governing body gathers information from the head teacher and other professionals, allowing them to evaluate the school	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) Reports from the head teacher have a clear purpose and contain relevant information, meeting the needs of the governing body and assisting in monitoring, evaluation and decision making including information about the quality of teaching and learning					
ii) The governing body receives information indicating how well the curriculum and other activities meet the range of needs and interests of learners					
iii) The governing body receives information about how well learners are guided and supported					
iv) The governing body receives information about the overall effectiveness and efficiency of staff leadership and management					
v) The governing body receives information from outside the school that corroborates information provided by the school					
Totals for 7c					

Criterion 7d. The governing body has a structured and purposeful approach to school visits	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) The governing body has an agreed policy and code of practice for visits to the school, and how such visits are recorded and reported					
ii) Such visits are related to school improvement priorities and statutory responsibilities, and information gained from school visits is shared with the governing body in a structured way					
iii) School visits contribute to the evidence base for decision making by the governing body					
Totals for 7d					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

TOTALS for CRITERION 7					You must have at least 10 BP /FC overall in criterion 7.
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Criterion 8: Support and Challenge

Sub criterion 8a The governing body and the head teacher create the climate whereby both support and challenge can be provided	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) There is a high level of trust and respect between the head teacher and the governing body and the head teacher is open to questions and suggestions from the governing body					
ii) There are clear ground rules for discussions and decision making, including the required confidentiality following decisions					
Totals for 8a					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 8b The governing body is skilled in asking relevant questions, which provide the evidence required for decision making					Evidence reference
i) The governing body acts as a sounding board for head teacher thinking through the use of appropriate questioning					
ii) Governors hold the headteacher and school leadership to account by robustly challenging underperformance. They do this by asking questions in a positive and constructive manner					
Totals for 8b					You must have at least 50% BP or FC

Sub criterion 8c There is an effective partnership between the governors and the school leadership	BP	FC	PC	NC	Evidence reference
i) Governors have a clear focus on raising standards and improving the quality of teaching and learning and have a clear structure for engagement with the school's leadership					
ii) The governing body is able to discuss openly and frankly with the schools' strengths and weaknesses					
iii) The school's leadership team has the opportunity to work with governors on improvement issues and the implementation of policies					
Totals for 8c					You must have at least 50% BP or FC
TOTALS for CRITERION 8					You must have at least 6 BP /FC overall in criterion 8.

Appendix 1 of the Guidance to Schools identifies possible sources of evidence to support a school judgement that the good practice standards have been complied within each criterion.