

Preparing for Inspection: Sample questions for a Governor designated to oversee SEND

A special educational needs (SEND) Governor can expect to be questioned about the key responsibilities attached to the role. These are to:

- Help raise awareness of SEND issues at governing body meetings
- Take part in the review of the school's policy on provision for pupils with SEND and ensure the school meets its statutory duties
- Provide up-to-date information on the school's SEND provision and what impact this is having on pupil outcomes
- Hold leaders to account for the spending of SEN funding allocated to the school
- Ensure that parents/carers have confidence in the school's provision

In order to evaluate how effectively Governor's undertake their role in relation to SEND, an inspector might ask:

- What are the key features of the school's SEND policy and SEN Information Report and how frequently are these reviewed?
- How does the school identify children with SEND?
- What happens once a child is identified as having SEND?
- How are specific funds for SEND allocated and spent?
- How do you know how well pupils with SEND are performing against targets & national standards?
- Are there any differences in the performance of children with SEND in different years, classes, etc.?
- What training have you had in this role?
- How do you gather stakeholder views, especially those of parents, and what do you learn from them?
- What is your role in drawing up plans to improve the school's SEND provision?
- What is your role in monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of these plans?