# Administration

- Closed captions are available
- Speakers have been invited to share a short verbal description of themselves
- Chat function is disabled
- Please enter any questions using the Q&A panel
- This session is being recorded; links to the video will be sent out
- We will also send links to slides, resources, and contact details of our guest speakers
- Please continue to follow the conference, and like and share the content on social media using the **#GfSConference21** hashtag
- Please complete the short post-session survey

Governors for Schools Conference 2021.

# Governor Support

Sujal Zaveri

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# Evolution

**Past**

**Present**

**Future**

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# Core Functions of Governance

Vision

Educational Performance

Financial Performance

Voices of Stakeholders

NGA recognised 2021

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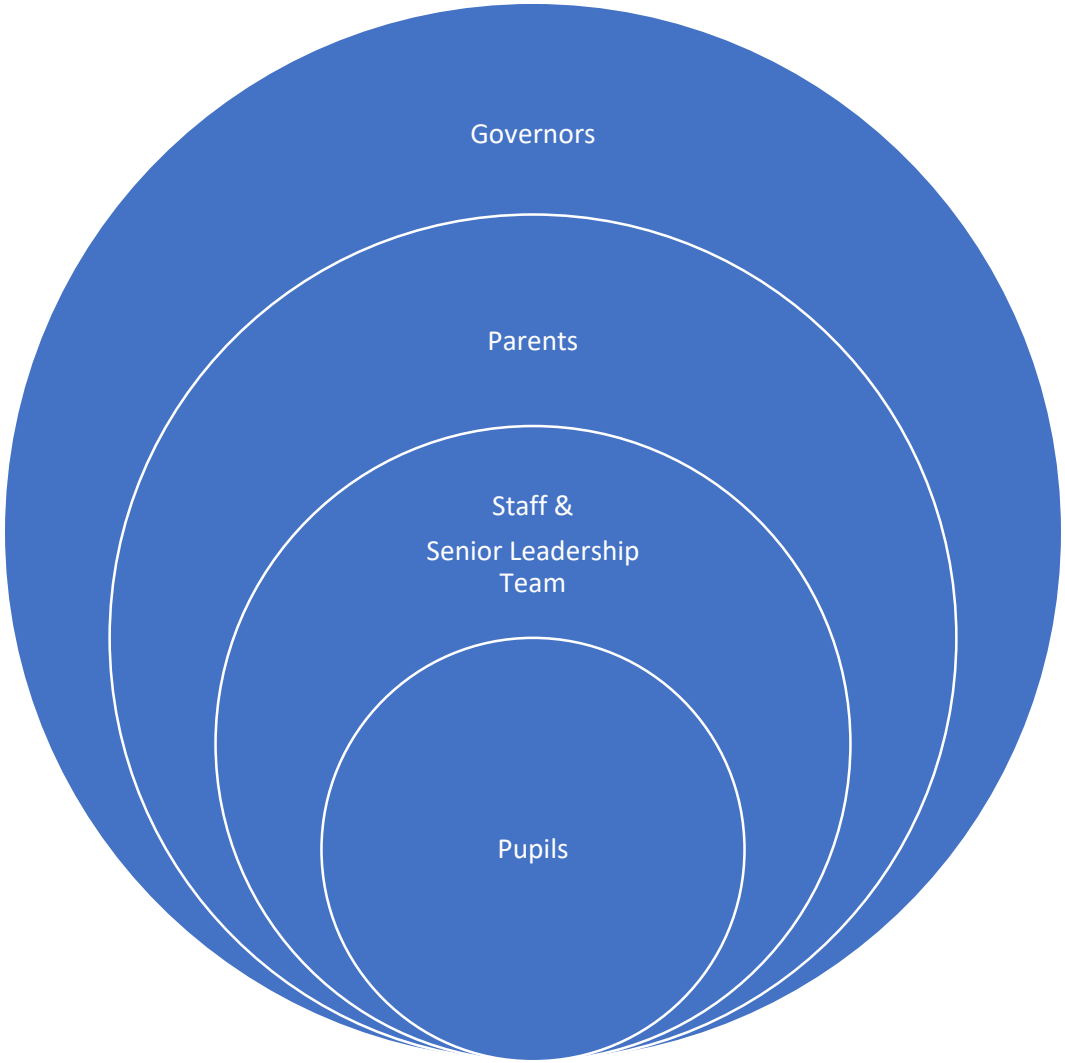
# Stakeholders

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# 2020

**Promoting equitable treatment, championing diversity and developing an inclusive environment**

Debate

Awareness

Unconscious Bias

Self Reflection

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# Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

## Types of discrimination – 9 protected characteristics

- Age
- Gender reassignment
- Married or civil partnership
- Pregnant or on maternity leave
- Disability
- Race, including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

*Equalities Act 2010*

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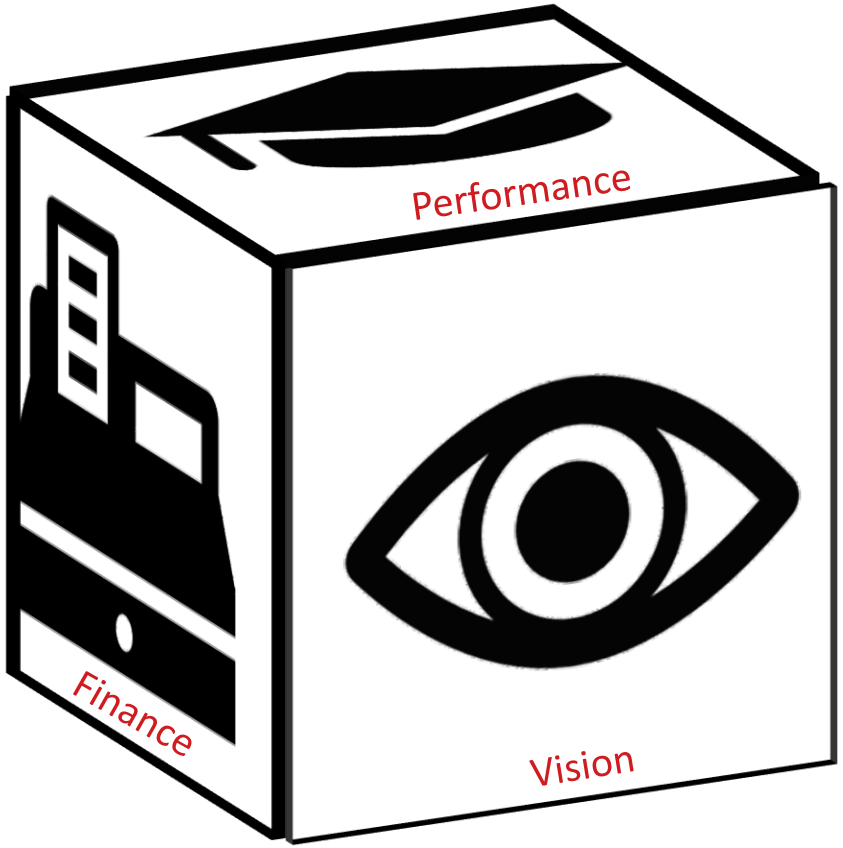
# Action must be multi-dimensional




Vision

- Collective vision
- Inclusive culture

Educational performance

- Role models
- Create opportunities

Finance

- Allocation of resources
- Awareness of unmet needs

*Not just a tick box exercise*

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- Headteachers
- Staff
- Pupils
- Governors

# Wellbeing

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# How can you help?

Headteacher

Look

Listen

Link

Pupil

Look

Listen

Monitor

Governor

Look

Listen

Support

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# Covid-19 some positives

Virtual Meetings

- ❑ Making them more inclusive
- ❑ Improved attendance

Training

- ❑ Increased pool of potential trainers - greater diversity
- ❑ Improved attendance

***Importance of being flexible, adaptable and aware of diverse needs***

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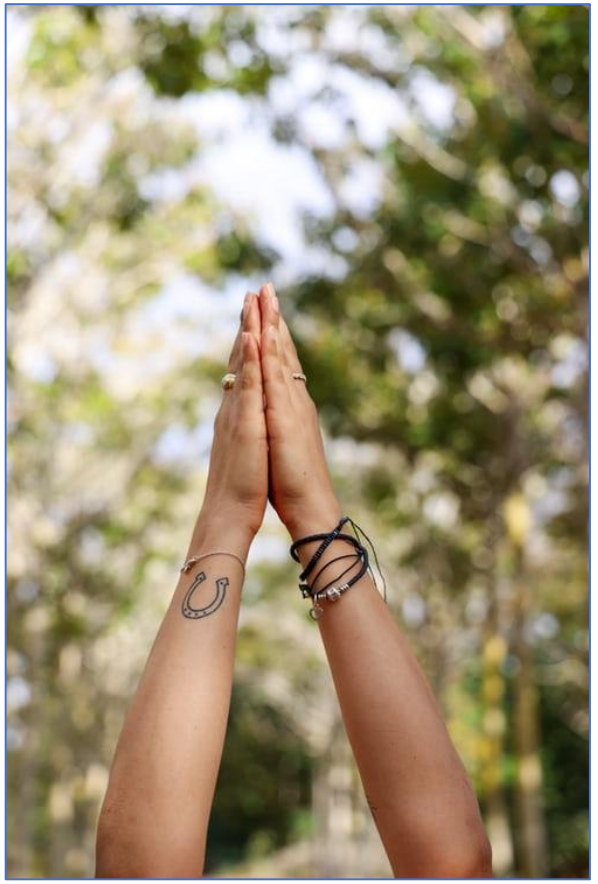
*''Be the change you want to see in the world''*

*Mahatma Gandhi*



**Thank you**

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Steve Barker

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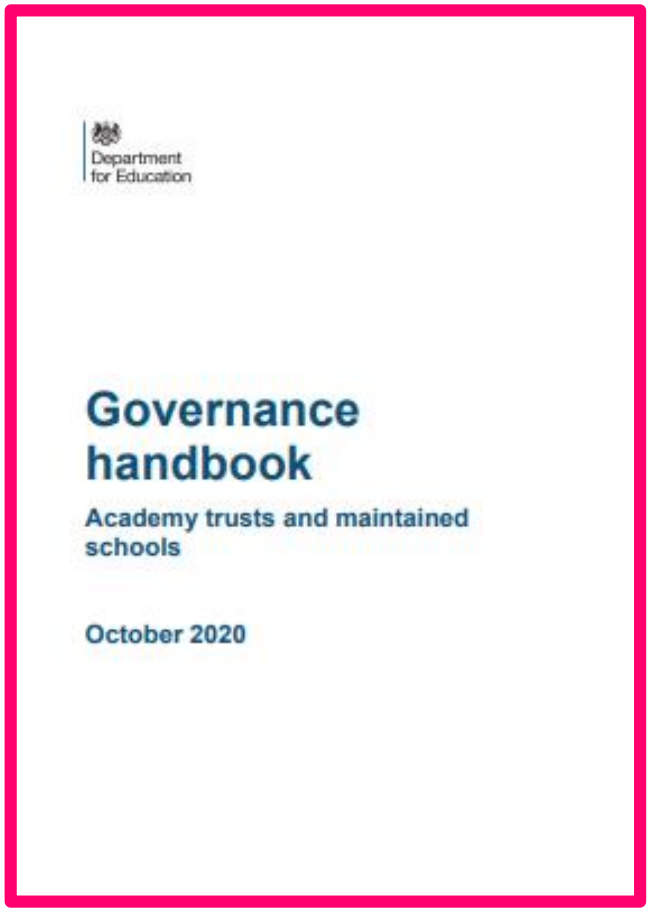
www.bettergovernor.co.uk

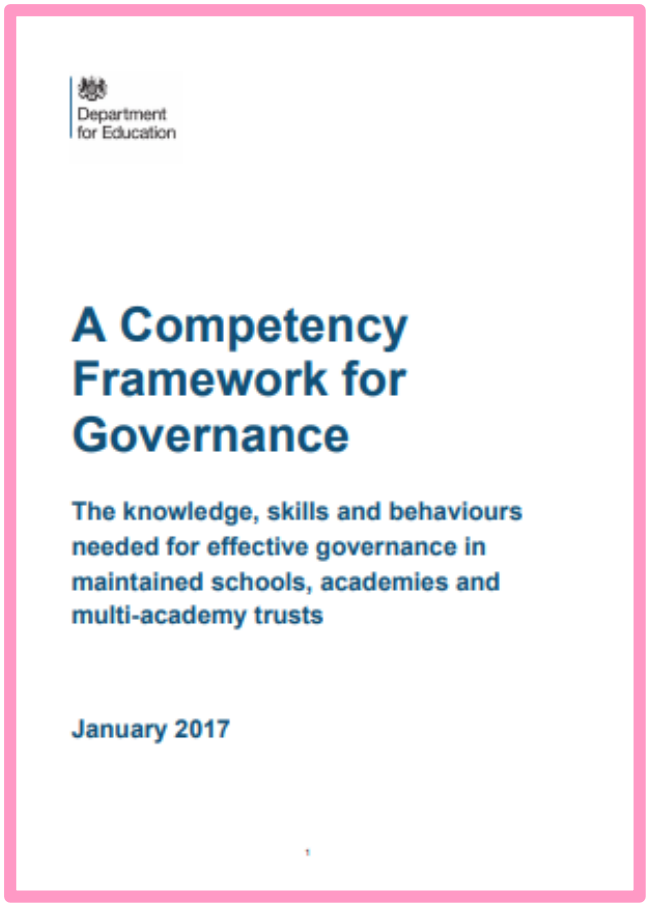
# Benchmarks for effective (good) governance


Department for Education

Governance handbook

Academy trusts and maintained schools

October 2020


Department for Education

A Competency Framework for Governance

The knowledge, skills and behaviours needed for effective governance in maintained schools, academies and multi-academy trusts

January 2017

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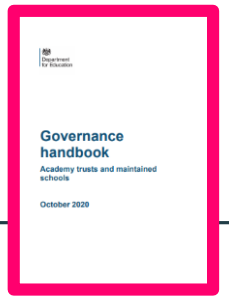
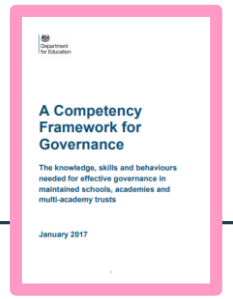
# Key messages




- understanding the Core Functions is crucial;
- Nolan Principles underpin our work;
- engaging in professional development is essential;
- asking the right questions characterises effective governance;
- is our structure fit-for-purpose?
- what lessons have we learn during the pandemic?

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# Lessons learnt from the pandemic (so-far)

- shorter meetings are possible and can be productive;
- headteacher workload is a reality and governance can impact on this;
- preparation is everything;
- we must all guard against losing inclusive practice;
- Informed governors make informed decisions.

# Key themes for governance this term:

- Pupil performance *must* be on the agenda;
- Changes in safeguarding expectations (Keeping Children Safe in Education) including peer-on-peer sexual abuse;
- Outbreak Management Plans;
- Ofsted focus on the curriculum has not gone away.

# A word on questioning!

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# References:

- Governance Handbook/Competency Framework

  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook
- DfE Guidance

  https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719902/Sexual_violence_and_sexual_harassment_between_children_in_schools_and_colleges.pdf
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

  https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999348/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2021.pdf

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# Thank you

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# Good Governance in 2021

**Kirstie Barrett**
Chair of Governors, Enfield
Head Teacher, Barnet
Mum of 3 primary aged children

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# Thank you for attending, we hope you enjoyed the session

# Please complete the post-session survey and continue to follow the conference, as well as share links to videos and resources