

Questions for Governors / Trustees to consider

(Not necessarily an exhaustive list)

- How would you judge the overall effectiveness of the school (outstanding, good etc.)? Why? How do you know?
- What steps do governors take to find out about the work of the school?
- How well are pupils currently in the school achieving? How do you know? How well do disadvantaged pupils achieve, particularly the most able? Are the gaps between their achievement and those of other pupils nationally closing? What are the key barriers to their achievement? Does pupil premium spending reflect / address this? Give examples of where PP spending has had an impact on improving outcomes for pupils?
- How well do pupils with special educational needs and disabilities achieve in this school? How do you know? Are there any gaps in the achievement of different groups of pupils in the school (EAL, girl, boy, etc)? What is being done to close them? How effectively?
- Are there any underperforming subjects / year groups in the school? What actions are being taken to address this? With what impact? How do you know?
- XX appears to be a key issue for the school. What has been done to address it? With what effect? Is improvement happening rapidly enough?
- Can you give an example of where you have held senior leaders to account / asked challenging questions?
- How would you judge the quality of teaching in the school? What are its particular strengths / areas for development? How effective is performance management and CPD in moving the quality of teaching forward? How do you know?
- How well do pupils behave in the school? Are there any particular patterns in behaviour across groups of pupils / year groups? How well do attendance and exclusion figures compare to national? What has been done to bring about improvement where necessary? With what impact?
- How effectively does the school work with parents, carers, stakeholders to support pupils? Can you give some examples?
- How well does the school promote equalities / equality of opportunity? Can you give some examples?

- Give some examples of how the school promotes British Values. SMSC. How effectively? How do you know?
- What are the specific risks in the community around safeguarding / extremism? What steps have you taken to mitigate these risks? How effectively?
- Safer recruitment. How do you check on the single central register? Have all teachers had appropriate CPD training? How do you know? Who is the Designated Person in the school? When was your safeguarding policy last updated? Have all staff and governors read part 1 of keeping children safe in education?