School Governors' Responsibilities for Safeguarding: Ensuring Safety and Well-Being

Key roles in promoting student safety and welfare



Governors' Duties and Accountability



Responsibilities of School Governors:

Governors are legally obligated to implement safeguarding policies, ensuring the safety and well-being of those they serve.

The governing board's role is to ensure that safeguarding policies and procedures are compliant and reflect current best practice and are implemented effectively. The governors should assure themselves that the policy is appropriate, reflects the characteristics of their setting, and suits the needs of their pupils

The governing board must also have sufficient knowledge and capacity to fulfil its safeguarding responsibilities.



Ethical Responsibilities:

In addition to legal responsibilities, governors have ethical duties to foster a secure and supportive environment for all.

Supporting an overarching culture of safeguarding and ensuring this culture is embedded to ensure that safeguarding is a consideration for everyone in the school with respect to everything they do.



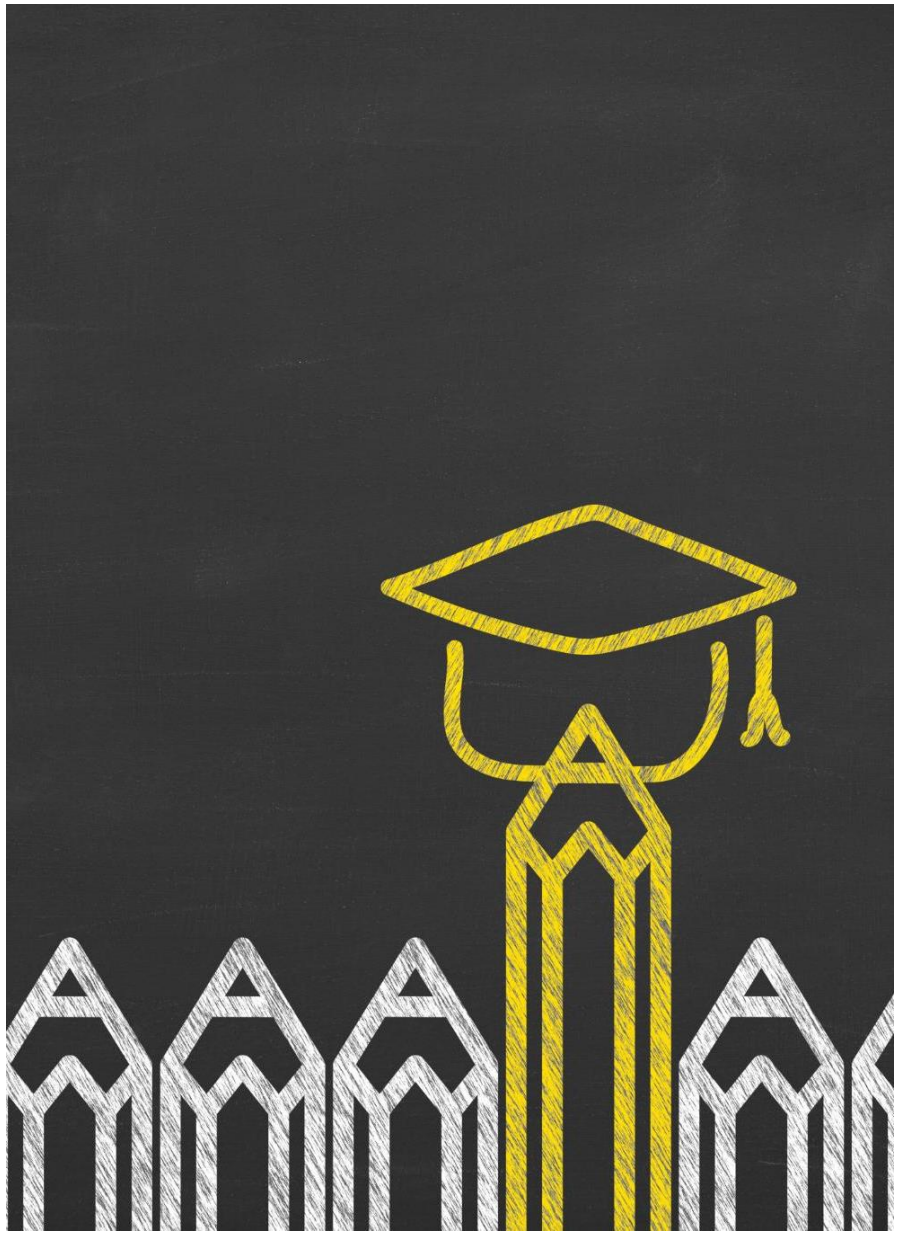
Accountability Measures

Governors must implement accountability measures to address any shortcomings and enhance the effectiveness of safeguarding policies.

Governing boards should ensure an appropriate member of the SLT is appointed as the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

Although the DSL will lead on safeguarding and child protection, it is essential that all staff understand their roles and responsibilities and are able to discharge them. Boards should ask questions to ensure that all staff receive appropriate and regular safeguarding and child protection training.

Safeguarding should be a stand alone agenda item at each Full Governing Board Meeting



Oversight and Monitoring of Safeguarding

Regular Monitoring

Regular monitoring of safeguarding practices is crucial for ensuring compliance with established policies in schools.

Governor Engagement

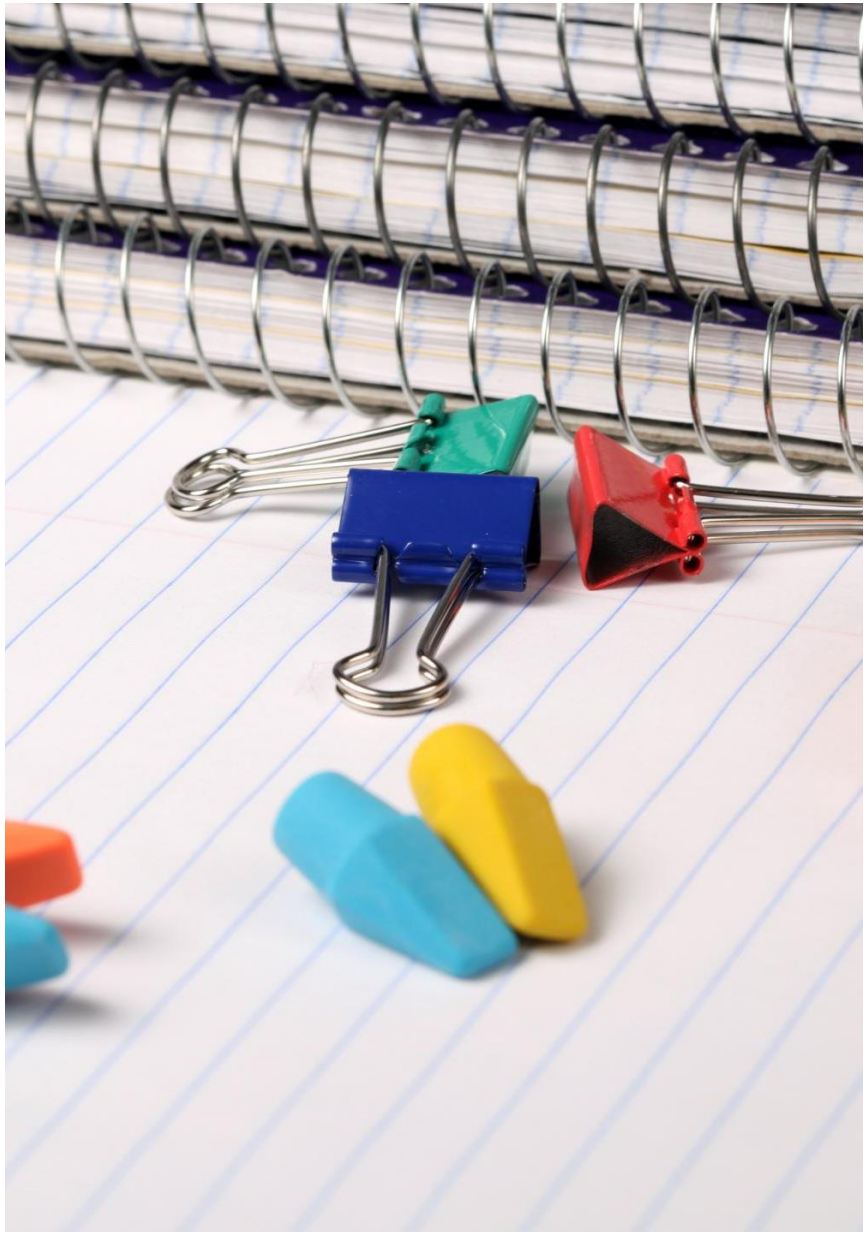
The governing board is **required** to appoint a governor to take leadership responsibility for safeguarding arrangements in their school. (often referred to as the Safeguarding Link Governor)

Responsibilities of the **The Safeguarding Link Governor** are:

- Meeting with the DSL termly
- Staying up to date on relevant guidance and policy
- Reporting to the governing board following meetings with the DSL and any monitoring visits
- Reviewing the SCR

Responsibility & Training for all Governors

- In addition to appointing a safeguarding link governor, **all Governors** should ask questions and seek assurances that safeguarding practice is effective.
- All school Governors **must** receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training at induction, which is **updated annually**. The training can be delivered face-to-face, or online.
- It is best practice for Governors to undertake Prevent training
- At least one member of the governing board **must** have undertaken Safer Recruitment training
- Governors **must** confirm they have read at lest Part 2 of the KCSiE for the current academic year
- Records that training and reading of KCSiE are to be held by the Clerk to the governing board and shared with DSL.





Support for Governors from Hillingdon

A series of governor training is provided on a range of subjects. A Governors Safeguarding training is delivered on an annual in the Autumn term.

Governors Safeguarding Training - Wednesday 15th October 2025 – 6pm (online)

(A recording of the session is made and is then shared via LEAP)

Governors receive a Weekly Education Update as well as a half termly newsletter highlighting local and national issues surrounding governance it also contains information on governor training/networking opportunities that are being delivered by Hillingdon.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding school governance.