



ESW Governance

The [ESW Governance Structure](#) describes the overall structure of governance within ESW. Details of the [Board](#) and the [Members](#) are available on the respective web pages.

Local Governing Bodies within ESW

ESW believes that Local Governing Bodies have an essential role to play in the leadership of the schools within the Trust. The specific responsibilities of the LGBs are captured in detail in the Scheme of Delegation, which aims to reflect the responsibilities that are required to fulfil the following roles:

- **Establishing and maintaining the vision and ethos of the school.** The Board works with its schools and stakeholders to establish and maintain the overall vision and ethos of the Trust. The LGB works with the Headteacher and stakeholders to create the school's own vision and ethos within, and complementary to, the overall Trust vision.
- **Holding school leaders to account for the quality of education provided by the school.** Working closely alongside the ESW Executive, the LGBs bring additional insight from their day to day contact with the school and its stakeholders that helps to ensure that the quality of education in the school is continually improved. This includes the quality of teaching and learning, the curriculum in its broadest sense, personal development, welfare and behaviour. This role is fulfilled through supporting and challenging leaders within the school, in collaboration with the ESW leadership.
- **Representing the interests of the community within the school.** ESW strives to act in the best interests of all schools in the Trust. LGBs complement this by providing a perspective that reflects the needs and expectations of the local community. This is a key role that ensures that the schools not only deliver the best education, but do so in a way that is sensitive to, and builds engagement from, the local community.
- **Holding the ESW Board to account for decisions that impact the school.** LGBs provide support and challenge that helps to inform the Board, to ensure that the impacts of decisions at a local level are well understood, and that this understanding is used to improve the decisions and their outcomes. This serves to broaden the range of perspectives that the ESW Board and leadership can take into account when making decisions.

The composition of individual Local Governing Bodies is determined by the schools based on their judgement of what is required to fulfil the above roles in an efficient and effective manner. The Board approve the appointment of governors. Collaboration between LGBs is facilitated through the ESW Open Forum, ESW Governor Training Programme, and through a (currently informal) ESW Chairs Group.

Governance Documents

www.educationsouthwest.org.uk/documents