Governance and Inspection
Questions that governors could be asked by inspectors

Taken from a presentation entitled ‘Ofsted Update - National Co-ordinators of Governor Services, November 2016’ by Belita Scott – HMI & Ofsted’s National Lead for Governance

What is your evaluation of the school’s overall effectiveness at this stage of its development?

What are the school’s three greatest strengths and three crucial areas for development?

How do you know?

Where has the funding had its biggest impact?

Can you tell me about the use of additional funding for disadvantaged pupils?

What is your involvement in the performance management of the Headteacher and the staff?

How do you know?

Can you tell me about the impact of the government’s pupil premium funding on the attainment and progress of the school’s higher ability, disadvantaged pupils?

How do you know?

What impact did the challenge have on the attainment and progress of pupils?

Can you give me an example?

Does the training attended enable governors to challenge the Headteacher rigorously?

Is there an annual training programme for governors?

How do you know?

Last year, the proportion of pupils reaching the standard in the Year 1 check on phonics was well below average.

What changes have been made to address this underachievement?

What impact have the changes had?

How do you know?

Which groups of pupils in which year groups are making pleasing progress?

How well are the pupils with low prior attainment doing in Year 3, Year 7 or Year 9?

How do you know?
Also check:

- Governors details are on Edubase
- All the required elements about governance are on your school’s website
- The Headteacher and safeguarding governor check the single central record regularly
- The scheme of delegation is published on an academy school’s website
- Governors have a full knowledge of the impact of pupil premium, PE and sport and Year 7 catch-up funding
- The recruitment records for staff have no unexplained employment gaps
- The school’s child protection and/or safeguarding policy refers to current guidance
- Your evaluation of the school’s effectiveness is based on hard evidence