

Essential safeguarding

Examples of questions Ofsted may ask governors and trustees

These could be asked during formal meetings with inspectors or informal conversations:

Understanding your role

- How does the board ensure it meets its safeguarding responsibilities?
- What's your understanding of the board's role vs that of leaders or the DSL?

Policies and practice

- When did you last review the safeguarding and child protection policy?
- How do you check policies are not just on paper but used in practice?

Monitoring and oversight

- What data do you receive on safeguarding? How do you use it?
- How do you know staff are trained and confident to report concerns?

Pupil voice and culture

- How do you know pupils feel safe? How is this tested or monitored?
- Have you ever followed up on safeguarding concerns raised by pupils or staff?

Working with the DSL

- How often do you meet with the DSL? What do you discuss?
- How do you ensure the DSL is supported and not overloaded?

Learning and improvement

- How does the board learn from safeguarding incidents or reviews?
- Can you give an example of something that has changed in your school/trust due to safeguarding oversight?