

Our School Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution to the education of our boys. They work in partnership with the Headteacher and other school staff to promote high standards of educational achievement at the school. They are primarily responsible and accountable for all major decisions about the school and its future, and ensure that the school is accountable to those it serves.

The term of office of a Governor is usually four years, but Governors can resign earlier if necessary. It is estimated, that it can take a couple of years to fully get to know the job and therefore, Governors are encouraged to carry on for a further term of office if circumstances allow, although Parent Governors must be re-elected by parents of students at the school.

The Headteacher is an ex officio Governor. Staff Governors are either teachers or support staff at the school and are elected by their colleagues. Parent Governors are elected by other parents. Community Governors are appointed by other Governors as representatives of the wider local community, as business representatives, or because of particular skills they can bring to the Governing Body. As an Academy, being appointed as a Governor, also means you become a Trustee and a Company Director.

Purpose of a Governing Body?

Every school has a Governing Body to represent the public in the running of schools. The Governing Body supports the Headteacher and staff and is accountable to its stakeholders for the school's overall performance and for decisions it has made.

The Governing Body has a strategic role to promote high standards of educational achievement, ensuring that adequate plans are made and legal obligations are met. The Governing Body has a responsibility to:-

- Promote and maintain high standards of educational attainment;
- Agreeing the outcomes from the School's self-evaluation and ensuring they are used to inform the priorities in the School Development Plan
- Set an annual budget detailing planned spending;
- Approve a staffing structure and appoint staff, establishing procedures for management of staff conduct, discipline and staff grievances and annually reviews the School's Performance Management Policy for staff appraisal.
- Ensure that the curriculum is balanced and broadly based and report on students' achievement and examination results.
- Produce school policies;
- Secure high levels of attendance and good standards of student behaviour;
- Ensure the safeguarding and health & safety of students and staff;
- Develop the strategic plan for the Academy, acting as a critical friend and ensuring accountability;
- Deal with complaints against the Academy

The Governing Body will hold senior leaders to account by monitoring the School's performance, this includes:-

- Agreeing the outcomes from the School's self-evaluation and ensuring they are used to inform the priorities in the School Development Plan
- Considering all relevant data and feedback provided on all aspects of school performance
- Asking challenging questions of school leaders

- Ensuring senior leaders have arranged for the required audits to be carried out and receiving the results of those audits
- Ensuring senior leaders have developed the required policies and procedures and the school is operating effectively according to those policies
- Acting as a Committee Link Governor on a specific issue and reporting to the Governing Body on progress/requirements.
- Listening to and reporting to the Academy's stakeholders i.e. students, parents, staff and the wider community, including local employers.

Professional support

The governors represent a wide range of professional skill backgrounds. This expertise includes:

- Accounting and financial audit
- Business planning
- ICT procurement and programming
- Legal advice
- Architect advice and surveying
- Tax advice for charity and company sectors
- Banking
- Human Resource Management
- Professional counselling
- University teaching and admissions advice
- Local Council leadership

Interested in becoming a Governor?

When a vacancy arises for a Governor position, the Governing Body welcomes interest from suitably motivated and committed individuals who believe they could make a positive difference and add real value to the School. If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please contact the Clerk to the Governors at the school address.

Governors play a vital role in raising school standards through three key roles: working with the Headteacher to set the School's strategic direction; ensuring accountability; and monitoring and evaluating school performance. Schools need volunteers (whether parents or not) with experience of life, but some Governors may have qualifications/professional skills. Governors do not have to be educational experts, and are here to provide an independent view and common sense approach. Governors bring a range of experience and interests from many walks of life.

There are no particular qualifications or requirements. The ideal candidate brings enthusiasm; energy; time; a willingness to be open to new ideas and attend basic training; an enquiring mind; along with good communication/interpersonal skills. Specific skills or professional experience that can add real value to the school and its stakeholders are always welcome.

The amount of time you give depends on what you are able to offer. You will need time to attend at least one Full Governing Body meeting per term, this is a statutory requirement. Most Governing Bodies have a number of Committees. Governing Body obligations may have been delegated to Committees as appropriate whose members look at specific areas of work, e.g. Finance & Resources, Curriculum or Staffing. The Committees make decisions on behalf of the Governing Body, or recommendations depending on its Terms of

Reference. Most of the statutory termly meetings are held during the evening, but committees can meet during the daytime.

As an Academy, the Governing Body must work within its Articles of Association. The school and Governors are also subject to duties and responsibilities as laid out in the Companies Act and the Charity Act. Upon your appointment as a Governor, you will also become a Director and will be registered as such against the Academy at Companies House. You must therefore ensure that there is no reason why you may not become a [Director](#) when considering applying for a Governor vacancy. You will also be appointed as a Trustee under the Charity Act involving regulations and monitoring by the [Charities Commission](#). Upon appointment you will receive a Governors' Handbook and other information and training to assist you in your role.

Being a member of a School's Governing Body is an excellent way of getting to know the School much better, as well as improving knowledge and understanding of education, teaching and learning. It is rewarding and satisfying to work alongside like-minded individuals, in the knowledge that you are influencing the School's future development and direction.