

So, what's it like being a school governor?

Well, actually, it's great! We have a group of dedicated governors who have the interests of the school at heart. It can be very satisfying as we are all involved and know what's happening. It can be very enjoyable and you will get to work with very nice people.

It is, of course, also a very important post- one that should be taken seriously. Our job is to work alongside the Head Teacher to ensure that the school is the best it can be. This includes looking at school standards, budgeting, resourcing, the building, safeguarding- just to mention a few things.

What is the time- commitment?

To a degree that is up to you, but the minimum governors do is one committee meeting half-termly and a Full Governing Body meeting termly, both no more than 2 hours in length. Each governor also has a "link-governor" role meaning you may work with another governor **or member of staff** on such things as attendance, safeguarding or Teaching & Learning. This may take up a bit more time but it is dependent on the role. Some governors do more, some less but each of us give as much as we can.

I have no experience as a governor. Is this a problem?

No, not at all- we will train you, although we would welcome experienced governors as well.

What qualifications/ skills do I need?

Life experience and a willingness to make a commitment.

You also need to have a full understanding of the importance of confidentiality. As a parent governor, you need to recognise that you are working for the whole school and not just your child.

Do I need to have an educational background?

No. Whilst we welcome people who do, it is also very important that we have people **with a range of skills beyond the area of education**. In this way, we get different perspectives, **knowledge and skills**.

Who can apply?

Any parent or guardian can apply for the parent governor role. Anybody can apply for the LA role.

What happens next?

If you are interested in either role, firstly let Miss Chappell know. After that, I will meet with you for a chat about the role and what you can offer, and so that you can decide if it is something you would like to do. Once this is done, it will put to other parents who get the chance to vote. In the event of more than one application, parents will be asked to vote for their preferred candidate. You will of course be DBS-checked.

I hope this helps. If you would like to meet to chat through any points, please do let Miss Chappell, or myself know.

Regards, Steph Hall (Chair)