



Would you like to be a school governor...?

We currently have two vacancies on our school governing body and a further one that is going to come up at the end of the school year and we would really like to hear from you if you would like to hear about joining the team. These are “co-opted” governor roles and aren’t elected to like parent governors but join the team to bring specific skills. **The key skill you need is to have an enthusiasm for making our school a great place for children to learn and grow**, but if you have particular skills in HR, marketing, finance, supporting well-being of children and staff then that would be a welcome bonus.

Becoming a school governor is a really good way to get to know the school in a different way and be a part of deciding how our wonderful school is run.

The governing body's main tasks are:

- to ensure that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- to hold the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- to oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Myth busting:

“You have to be a teacher or a parent”

Nope - Anyone can be a school governor, as long as you are over 18 and show an interest in the school, what is happening in education and the local community.

“You have to know about how to run a school”

Nope – governors receive training and are guided by the local authority, including having a clerk to help us through all the tasks we need to do. We learn along the way and bring skills from other parts of our lives to do the governor tasks. Also, the governor roles are strategic and not about the operational day to day of running the school, **it’s about setting direction and making sure our school is set up to be the best it can be.**

“You have to take minutes and prepare lots of documents”

Nope – governors do need to be able to attend meetings, usually about one or two per half term, mostly in the evening, but sometimes during the day to see the school in action. You need to prepare for those meetings by reading papers prepared by the school and sometimes write a short report about what you’ve seen in school on a visit, but the minute taking and organising of the meetings is done by the clerk. **The main thing you will need to do is be curious and ask lots of questions about why things are done the way they are, it’s all about challenge and holding the school to account.**

If you’d like to know more, please drop a line to the school office or catch me at the gate in the morning.

There is also find helpful information for prospective governors on the Hampshire County Council website at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/governors/volunteer>.

Allison, Chair of Governors (and Tom (y5) and Peter (y2)’s mum!)