

Role of the Parent Governor

Parents and carers of pupils are eligible to stand for election as governors. Parent governors are elected by other parents at the school are representative of parents, grandparents and carers in a non-political way. If insufficient parents stand for election, the governing body may appoint Parent Governors.

Parent Governors ARE:	Parent Governors ARE NOT:
✓ well placed to understand parents' views and to remind the governing body how matters being discussed affect parents	✗ expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to the governing body
✓ individuals - how you vote on any decision is up to you	✗ expected to vote as instructed by other parents
✓ in a good position to help the governing body communicate effectively with parents	✗ the only link between parents and the governing body
✓ equal in status to all other governors	✗ expected to represent only the interests of parents, the role is broad

Time required from parent governors includes preparing for and attending meetings, and time spent understanding how the school works so that governors can ask searching, relevant questions. Full governing body meetings are held on Wednesdays after school twice per term, and all governors are asked to join one of the committees which meet on a similar timeframe.

Beyond participation in meetings governors are expected to contribute to the wider work of the governing body to support and improve the school by participating in activities with school staff and other governors. This includes visits in school to monitor performance in selected areas with guidance from school leadership. The more active governors are in their roles, the more progress will be made and the more satisfaction gained.

All new governors are required to complete basic induction training including safeguarding and child protection courses. These are provided free of charge and typically take 3-4 half days or evenings in the first year of office. One of our experienced school governors will also support new governors during the induction period.

It is expected that governors will continue to develop their knowledge and experience by undertaking additional training specific to their roles and areas of interest. Classroom training is generally two hour sessions and there is a wide range of online training and internet based guidance and resources. For further details or specific questions please address via the school office.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all members of the school and its community to demonstrably share this commitment.