



What is involved?

The Department for Education has outlined that the purpose of a governing body is to provide:

- strategic leadership
- accountability and assurance
- strategic engagement

The Local Governing Body (LGB) shares collective responsibility to deliver an excellent education to pupils.

Parent governors play a vital role on our LGBs. They have first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum and how the school is perceived which enables them to bring a very different perspective to the strategic leadership of the school. To learn more about the governor role, please watch [this short video](#) from the National Governance Association.

To hear some of our governors talk about their experiences click [here](#).

Who can become a parent governor?

Any parent can put themselves forward for election/appointment as a parent governor – no experience is necessary. A “parent” includes any person with parental responsibility or who cares for a pupil, student or child at the school, or another Transform Trust school, at the time of their appointment. If a parent at the school cannot be found, a parent of a child of compulsory school age can be appointed by the Trustees.

Induction and training requirements



Each LGB is allocated a Trust Governance Professional who attends all meetings to ensure the governing body effectively carries out its functions and meets statutory requirements. They are there to support you in your role.

We provide a comprehensive training and support package and our aim is to have knowledgeable and effective governors. All Governors undertake training as follows:

- Induction – a short Loom video introducing the Trust and its overall governance framework this can be accessed [here](#).
- A more formal, online induction course into school governance which can be accessed [here](#). Both these should be viewed/completed before your first meeting as a governor.
- We also offer Safeguarding/data protection/Prevent and other training modules.

All our own training is recorded with presentations, materials and videos being uploaded online to allow you to review them at any time – all designed to improve your governance knowledge.

"I became a governor in my son's school to try and understand more about the processes and practices in place in school and help where I can to improve the learning experience for him and other children. I have found it very welcoming from both Transform and school staff and have learned a lot. Training was handled very well as step by step courses and instructions and ample time given even for a parent who works full time." Mandy Clark – Ravensdale Junior School



To find out more, contact your Headteacher.



Time commitment

You will be required to allocate time to your voluntary role as a parent governor.

A guideline of the commitment required is:

- Meetings – 6 per academic year, usually between 1-2 hours.
- Monitoring visits – 1 per term, usually between 1-2 hours linked to either a statutory duty or school priority.
- Training – this is flexible but likely to be around 2-4 hours per term.
- Reading and preparing for meetings – approx. 1-2 hours per meeting.



Paperwork

All governor paperwork is located on an online platform called [GovernorHub](#). Your Governance Professional will create a GovernorHub account and support you with the completion of statutory documentation.

Achieving the right balance



Achieving a balance between being a parent and a parent governor can sometimes be difficult. Parent governors do not represent the views and concerns of specific parents. The role of a parent governor is the same as any other governor but also includes providing a ‘parent’s viewpoint’.

Here are some practical ways to help achieve this balance:

- Parent governors are encouraged to express their views in governor meetings.
- Parent governors should promote the interests of all children rather than focusing on their own child.
- Play an active part in meetings and attend governor training.
- Follow the appropriate rules for governor meetings and confidentiality.
- Speak to the Governance Professional who will be able to provide support, advice and guidance.
- It is important that parent governors do not become personally involved in individual parental concerns, instead signpost to appropriate courses of action.
- Declare an interest and withdraw from any discussion where you, a partner or close relative, stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial.
- Promote the school within the local community.