

Norton & West Chinnock Schools

Learning Together for Excellence

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Become a Governor at Norton and West Chinnock Schools

One vital function of the school is the Board of Governors and it requires a fresh impetus of people to ensure that the school remains forward thinking, fresh and alive to the needs of the children, teachers and parents. I'll admit that Governors meetings could conjure images of overly formalised and long meetings but actually the work that is involved can inspire, direct and help bring about real and practical change and challenge. As such we are looking to recruit two new Governors to be part of the Board to help continue move the school forward.

Please read on to see whether you or someone you know, may be interested in becoming a Governor at our wonderful schools.

It would be unfair to hide that sometimes the role is challenging but it is also hugely rewarding when you can see change and impact you can. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment.

Anyone aged over 18 can be a Governor (there can be some exceptions) and you do not need to be a parent. Also, there is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. There is plenty of training available to help you learn and develop further.

Schools need and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing board including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change - so, really, whatever experience you bring can be significantly valuable.

What Governors do?

The governing board helps provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools. It has three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

What will be expected of me?

The average time commitment is less than five hours a month, this includes meetings, background reading and school visits.

You'll attend the Board meetings and be a member of at least one committee.

It is always helpful if you can commit for a couple of years, but as a volunteer you can resign if your circumstances change. Governance is a voluntary role and therefore it is not paid.

If you have any spark of interest in this role, please contact the Clerk to Governors by email and we can arrange an informal chat in the first instance.

Thank you, Simon Roughesdge (Chair of Governors)