



Governors

What is a Governing Body, what do Governors do?

All schools are overseen by a Governing Body. The Governing Body is a group of volunteers who, with the Headteacher, set the strategic vision for the school and ensure that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving its vision. It does this by:

- Building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community
- Supporting and constructively challenging the school, and
- Ensuring accountability (judging the school's performance openly) and compliance (ensuring the school meets all its legal obligations, for example for safeguarding children, and managing its finances appropriately)

In practice most day-to-day decisions are taken by the Headteacher and staff (including teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, etc.) but it is the governors' job to set the direction and policies for the school; to delegate the job of delivering this to the Headteacher; to provide ongoing support and advice; and to monitor the outcome.

Work of the Governing Body

What does being a Governor involve?

As a governor, you need to be able to attend at least 6 meetings over the year. There is a full Governing Body Meetings, a Teaching & Learning Committee Meetings and a Finance Committee Meeting each term where governors with specific responsibilities report back about their work with the school. These take place in school, in the early evening. On average a Governor needs to spend 1 – 2 hours a week on governor activities, whether it is attending meetings, visiting the school, reading reports or following up on actions. (Some weeks you will have nothing to do for governors).

Some Governors have specific responsibilities and work closely, liaising with staff who have overall leadership of the following aspects:

- Leadership and Management
- Pupil Premium
- Teaching & Learning
- Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Finance
- Safeguarding
- Premises, Health and Safety
- Subject links

What's in for my child or children?

- Improving all children's education at the school.
- Ensuring the safeguarding of all children at the school.
- Protecting the rights of all children at the school.
- Ensuring the right environment to promote learning for all children at the school.

What's in it for the School?

- Strong governance to support the leadership and management of the school.
- Support for the strategic direction of the school.
- Support for the continuing growth and progression of the school towards becoming an outstanding school.



What's in it for me?

- The knowledge that you have played a part in improving children's education and supporting the school's staff.
- A chance to develop new skills and to practise existing ones, such as chairing meetings, speaking in groups, asking challenging

questions, making suggestions and appointing staff.

- A chance to help other members of the governing body, perhaps because they are new, not use to committee work, need help in learning about the school and school governance.
- An excellent addition to your CV – future employers will see that you are someone who is pro-active and supports your local community.
- The opportunity to meet new people and work within a supportive and friendly network.



What do you NOT need to be a Governor?

You do NOT need:

- to have any special experience to be a Governor.
- to be an expert in the field of education

What DO you need to be a Governor?

You Do need:

- an interest in the school and in the welfare of all our children
- the time and willingness to get involved
- a commitment to learn over time, through getting involved and attending training

What skills are useful for Governors?

The skills you already have can be very useful to the governing body. Very important skills are:

- the ability to be able to build relationships with a variety of people
- the ability to listen to others, and weigh different points of view
- the ability to work as part of a team
- the ability to question
- the ability to make connections between a variety of information.

All Governors need to commit to learning about schools and how to improve them. You will be offered a wide range of training in various formats to support this.



Contact Information

For more information please contact:

Mr Tomes (Headteacher)

or

Mrs D Cranmer and Mrs M Lenton
(Co-chairs of the Governing Body)

via the School Office 01753 211330

School Website: www.churchmead.org



'Believe to Achieve'



Become A School Governor