

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

To be a successful governor, you need commitment, with the time and desire to get involved in the school. You will be involved in making strategic decisions, setting priorities and monitoring progress. You will be expected to:

- Attend regular meetings
- Read relevant documentation
- Get to know the school through visits, attending events, meeting the staff and students
- Ask questions
- Attend training

"Being a Parent Governor is a very rewarding way to help in my children's school, learning new skills and taking part in the development of children's education and future. It's a privilege!"
School Governor



MAIN CATEGORIES OF GOVERNOR

There are a number of categories of governor, though not all are on every governing body. Most governors serve for a period of four years.

Parent Governors are elected by and from the parents and carers of students at a school.

Staff Governors are elected by and from teachers and staff at a school.

The governing body appoints **Co-opted Governors**.

Foundation Governors are appointed by the foundation bodies of voluntary aided (faith) schools.

Local Authority Governors are nominated by the Local Authority and are appointed by the Governing Body. Nominations are made based on the skills requested by the governing body.

For more details or for an informal chat about becoming a governor, please contact Governor Services at the Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX on 07739 315429/ 07739 315427 or email julie.farmer@rbkc.gov.uk. Visit the Borough's website for an application form at <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/becoming-school-governor>

SCHOOLS NEED GOVERNORS



Would you like to be a part of the largest volunteer group in the country, working with others to provide the best for children and young people?



City of Westminster

WHO CAN BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

- You do not need to be an expert in education, have children or any specific qualifications. Extensive training is available to equip you for the role, held locally and at convenient times.
- You do need enthusiasm, commitment, spare time, an interest in the future of children and young people, and to be over 18 years of age.
- Governing bodies need a balance of expertise, experience, knowledge and skills. Are you a good communicator? Can you negotiate, influence, work as part of a team? Have you experience within your local community or with parents?
- You need to be able to listen, learn, challenge constructively and question.

Every maintained school has a governing body of volunteers who contribute their skills, energy and knowledge to ensure that the next generation gets the best from school. In return they have the opportunity to learn new skills and to be involved in making a difference.

THE REWARDS OF BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Governors bring a wide range of experience and interests from many walks of life but they all have one thing in common – the desire to make a difference to the lives of children and young people. Rewards include:

- Knowing that your efforts could help to shape a better future.
- Developing new skills and strengthening existing ones.
- Helping to create a 21st century school, working in partnership with other schools and the wider community.
- Working as part of a team, supported by colleagues, mixing with people from a range of backgrounds
- Satisfaction from giving something back to the community by promoting the education, safety and well-being of students.



THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNING BODY

A school's governing body plays a vital part in raising educational standards and outcomes by:

- Working with the head teacher to create a safe environment in which students can learn, setting the vision, policies and priorities of the school.
- Challenging and supporting the school.
- Ensuring students' moral, social, spiritual and cultural development.
- Planning for the longer term future, ensuring money is spent wisely.
- Making sure the curriculum meets ALL pupils' needs and that a wide range of extended services is accessible.
- Involvement in appointing staff, including the head teacher.
- Acting as a link between the local community and the school. Governing bodies aim to reflect our diverse community. We are keen to increase the number of governors from black and minority ethnic background.