

Parent Governors



What is a parent governor?

A parent governor is elected to serve a four-year term of office on the governing body of a school by the parents/guardians of registered pupils; they themselves must be a parent or guardian of a registered pupil at the time of the appointment. Although elected by parents the parent governor is not a delegate and is under no mandate when voting.

What does the governing body do?

The governing body:

- is accountable for the performance of the school
- plans the school's future direction
- selects the head teacher
- makes decisions on the school's budget and staffing
- ensures the National Curriculum is taught
- decides on how the school can encourage pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development
- ensures that the school provides for all its pupils, including those with additional educational needs

Advice and Training

The Governor Services Team provides information and advice.

The Adviser for Governor Training delivers a training programme paid for by the school's training grant.

There is a special course for new governors, courses on specific topics and courses for different types of governors such as parent governors.

Time off work

The Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 grants employees reasonable unpaid time off for public duties. Some employers will allow time off with pay.

Allowances

Allowances for travel, subsistence and care for children or relatives can be paid at the governing body's discretion.

Disqualification

You can not become a governor if you:

- are under 18 years of age
- are bankrupt
- have been sentenced to prison for three months or more (without the option of a fine) in the previous five years

Why be a parent governor?

Many parent governors find the work is satisfying because it gives them the chance to:

- make a difference to how well their school runs
- do something for the next generation
- serve the local community
- learn new skills

How can I find out more?

For more information on being a school governor contact :

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