



Become a Parent Governor

What do governors do?

Governors are strategic leaders within the school and have a vital role to play in making sure every child gets the best possible education.

The role of the school governor is demanding but very rewarding and is a great way to give back to the community. Good schools need good governors.

Governing bodies have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

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

As a governor you will attend meetings, be prepared to ask questions after having read the associated paperwork and make frequent visits to the school. You will be expected to attend training and will probably have a special responsibility assigned to you, such as chairing a committee, safeguarding or health & safety.

No one governor is expected to know everything. The strength of a governing body lies in its ability to attract and rely on members from a wide variety of backgrounds, share out the duties among its members, and be able to take decisions as a group.

How much time does it take up?

We suggest about 20 to 30 hours per term, often in the evenings.

What would I be doing as a Governor?

The work varies depending on the areas of responsibility you take on, but you may be involved in:

- prior reading of paperwork and the preparation of questions before meetings
- attendance at whole governing body and committee meetings
- visits to school
- special projects
- reviewing policies and the school's budget

What skills are required?

The skills you need to become a governor include:

- commitment and interest in our children's future and improving educational outcomes
- willingness to read reports, analyse and question
- the ability to assimilate information, make judgements and take decisions
- good interpersonal skills and the ability to work as a team

What help is available?

There is an induction process for new governors and also plenty of training available locally covering all aspects of governance.

Being a school governor can be a very rewarding role. If it is something that interests you please leave your contact details with the school office or email chairgovernors@goring.oxon.sch.uk.