



What is the role of school governors and governing bodies?

Governing bodies are responsible for a wide range of matters, which include ensuring that pupils receive high quality education and planning for the future development and improvement of the school/college. Parent governors play an important role as members of the governing body and are welcomed as valued members of the team. The governing body works together – governors do not make decisions individually.

Governors will support and, at the same time, challenge heads by gathering views, asking questions and deciding what is best for the school. Governors make important decisions on how a school will be run and have to stand by their collective decision. The governing body is answerable to parents, learners and the wider community.

Governing bodies comprise of various types of governor. The governing body will include:

- Parents elected by other parents at the school.
- Staff governors elected by their colleagues.
- Local Authority appointed governors.
- Co-opted governors appointed for their business skills (e.g. finance, HR, H&S, etc.)
- Community Governors appointed by the governing body.
- Foundation governors appointed by Oxford Diocese.

Commitment

Full Governing Body meetings are held once a term, usually in the early evening. However our Summer Term meeting is held at 3.00 as we invite the school council to join us at the beginning. Governors usually also sit on one, or sometimes more, committees. Meetings should last no more than 2 hours. Governors are encouraged to visit school to learn more about the way the school works.

What will you gain as a school governor?

- The opportunity to make a real difference and the chance to contribute to the good of the community, leading to real satisfaction and a sense of achievement. You will gain an understanding of the decision making process of school governing bodies and an awareness of the education system as a whole;
- Working as a school governor will give the opportunity to work with a wide variety of people and pupils from a variety of social, cultural and religious backgrounds;
- You will develop new skills and strengthen existing ones. You will be offered training provided by the Local Authority on various aspects of the governor role.

If you are interested in becoming a governor at our school then please complete the Nomination form and the Declaration of Eligibility (both attached), and send them in to Mr. Tomson, Headteacher, Wingrave Church of England Combined School, Twelve Leys, Wingrave, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 4QG

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a tiny mustard seed planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds but becomes the largest of plants, and grows into a tree where birds can come and find shelter.”

Matthew 13:31-32

Appointment of School Governors – Nomination Form

I would like to be considered for the position of parent/community/foundation (delete as appropriate) governor of Wingrave Church of England School.

Title: Surname:

First Names: D.O.B.:

Home Address:

..... Postcode:

Telephone Number/s:

Email:

I have children currently at the school. I understand that if I am considered as a parent governor then I may need to take part in an election.

Please complete the personal statement below in support of your nomination – no more than 250 words please.

Signature: Date:

Declaration of Eligibility

I declare that I am not disqualified from serving as a school governor and that:

- **I am** aged 18 or over at the date of this election or appointment;
- **I do not** already hold a governorship of the same school;
- **I am not** a person who is detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- **I am not** the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order;
- **I have not** had my estate sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced.
- **I have not** been removed from the office of a charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commissioners or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement or, under section 7 of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- **I am not** included in the list (List 99) of teachers and workers with children or young persons whose employment is prohibited or restricted;
- **I am not** disqualified from being the proprietor of any independent school or for being a teacher or other employee in any school;
- **I am not** disqualified from working with children;
- **I have not**, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, received a sentence of imprisonment, suspended or otherwise, for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine;
- **I have not**, in the twenty years prior to becoming a governor, been convicted as aforesaid of any offence and had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than two and a half years;
- **I have not**, at any time, had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than five years;
- **I have not** been fined, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, for causing a nuisance or disturbance on education premises;
- **I am not** subject to a disqualification order under the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000.

I am willing to serve as a governor should I be elected. I am not disqualified from serving as a school governor and agree that the information I give on this form can be recorded and used by the Governor Development Team. I give permission for an application to be made to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate. If I become disqualified I will notify the Clerk to the Governing Body.

Signature: Date: