

THE ROLE OF A PARENT GOVERNOR

Governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the country and have an important part to play in raising school standards. The role of the Governing Board is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school. Time and time again Ofsted (the national inspection body for schools) has noted that the most effective schools demonstrate effective leadership and management - including by the Governing Board.

Being a governor is a responsible but rewarding and enjoyable job; we are looking for people from the local community to bring their everyday experience to the task and to become part of the team which, together with the Head and other senior staff, ensure the smooth running of the college.

School governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools. They appoint the headteacher and deputy headteacher. It is governors who hold the main responsibility for finance in schools, and it is governors who work with the headteacher to make the tough decisions about balancing resources

Parent governors are elected by the parents of the college. They are not delegates and do not have to vote as instructed by parents. Their role is to provide a parent's view and perspective.

A good governor will have:

- an interest in education and commitment to the college
- tolerance and the ability to work with others
- patience
- enthusiasm
- willingness to learn
- willingness to spend time on keeping up to date with educational and college matters and getting involved in the college

Each governor will be expected to be available to:

- attend formal meetings of the governing body and any related meetings, including Ofsted visits
- come into college to liaise with departmental heads; for Open Day; concerts and other school events
- serve on staff appointment panels, when required
- attend training courses provided by West Sussex County Council, which provides an extensive training programme, as well as expert advice and support