



**GOVERNORS
FOR SCHOOLS**

**Bring your skills
back to school.**



About Governors for Schools.

Governors for Schools is a national education charity that finds, places, and supports skilled volunteers as governors on school and academy boards. We work with schools and volunteers across England and Wales to improve education for children and young people through effective governance.



We have over 20 years' experience matching volunteers with schools in need. Our skills-based matching service means your unique background and experience will be put to good use. Apply online and we'll match your skillset to a school that needs you most.



**Get in touch on 020 7354 9805/
info@governorsforschools.org.uk to learn more.**

What do school governors do?

School governors have a varied and important role and help the school run effectively. Governors have 3 core functions:

- Planning the strategic direction of the school
- Overseeing financial performance of the school and ensuring money is well spent
- Holding the headteacher or school leadership to account

The governor role is strategic rather than operational. Governors don't get involved with the day to day running of a school, instead supporting and challenging the school's leadership team to drive improvement.

Being a governor is a commitment and a responsibility, but it's also a rewarding position. As a volunteer, you have the opportunity to improve education for children locally and see the impact of your decisions.

You'll have the chance to:

- Gain board experience
- Build networks in your local community and meet people of different backgrounds
- Develop your existing skills and learn new things



Why become a school governor?



What our volunteers say.

“My school’s independent ratings have improved since I joined the board. I’m really proud of what the school has done to turn things around.”

Jag Padham, chair at
Penyhill Primary, Birmingham

“School governors have the potential to change lives and improve social inequality, so I think it’s a fantastic opportunity.”

Musonda Mutati, governor at
Ranelagh Primary, Newham

“I’ve been able to provide a perspective as a board member that has changed the direction of some of our decisions.”

Cecilia Dosu, governor at
Heartlands High School,
Harringay

Training and support.

The majority of our volunteers are first-time governors who bring their professional skills and experience to the role.

Often, it's this outside perspective schools need – but we know it can feel daunting. Our training and support is there for all volunteers, so you can get up to speed quickly and make a positive impact from your first day in the role.



Our training and support includes:

- eLearning modules on a number of topics to introduce you to key elements of the role
- Regular webinars so you can continue your learning and have the opportunity to ask our governance experts questions
- 12 months' free access to online governor resource and knowledge bank The Key
- Access to GovernorHub including the Governors for Schools news and information area
- Governors placed in Wales also get 3 months' access to Governors Cymru, a Welsh governor support service

Next steps



Useful information before you apply

Our recent survey found that volunteers spend an average of around 7 hours a month on governing duties.

A governor's term of office is 4 years, and while there's no contract, it helps the school if you can commit to the whole term.

You don't need to be a parent or have experience working in education to apply for the role.

Governors are generally protected from personal liability, and provided they act honestly, reasonably, and in good faith, any liability comes back to the board, not individuals.

How we work



1. Apply online at www.governorsforschools.org.uk



2. Your partnership manager will match you with a vacancy that suits your skillset and requirements



3. We'll put you in touch with the school to arrange a meeting and keep in regular contact until you're appointed to a governing board



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Effective Governors, Excellent Schools.

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