



What is involved?

Each school's local governing body performs a strategic role with these key functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school to make sure money is well spent.
- Strategic oversight of relationships with stakeholders, such as parents, children and the local community.

Parent governors play a vital role on our Local Governing Bodies. They have first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum and how the school is perceived which enables them to bring a very different perspective to the strategic leadership of the school.

Who can become a parent governor?

Any parent can put themselves forward for election/appointment as a parent governor – no experience is necessary. A “parent” includes any person with parental responsibility or who cares for a pupil, student or child at the school, or another Transform Trust school, at the time of their appointment. If a parent at the school cannot be found, a parent of a child of compulsory school age can be appointed by the Trustees.

Induction and training requirements

Each governing body is allocated a Governance Professional who attends all meetings to ensure that the governing body effectively carries out its functions and meets statutory requirements. They will support you in your role.



Transform have a comprehensive training and support package available to governors and aim to have knowledgeable and effective governors. We require all our Governors to undertake training as follows:

- Induction – there is a short Loom Video as an introduction to Transform governance which can be accessed [here](#) and an online induction course which can be accessed [here](#). These should be completed before your first meeting as a governor.
- Safeguarding / GDPR – we have online training modules for you to complete as part of your induction process.
- School based induction provided by the headteacher/chair of governors.

Opportunities will be provided to complete additional training to develop your governance knowledge including for example health and safety, equality and diversity, Special Educational Needs and finance.

"I became a governor in my son's school to try and understand more about the processes and practices in place in school and help where I can to improve the learning experience for him and other children. I have found it very welcoming from both Transform and school staff and have learned a lot. Training was handled very well as step by step courses and instructions and ample time given even for a parent who works full time." Mandy Clark – Ravensdale Junior School

To find out more, contact your Headteacher.



Time commitment

You will be required to allocate time to your voluntary role as a parent governor.

A guideline of the commitment required is:

- Meetings – 6 per academic year, usually between 1-2 hours.
- Monitoring visits – 1 per term, usually between 1-2 hours linked to either a statutory duty or school priority.
- Training – this is flexible but likely to be around 2-4 hours per term.
- Reading and preparing for meetings – approx. 1-2 hours per meeting.

Paperwork

All governor paperwork is located on an online platform called [GovernorHub](#). Your Governance Professional will create a GovernorHub account and support you with the completion of statutory documentation.



Achieving the right balance

Achieving a balance between being a parent and a parent governor can sometimes be difficult. Parent governors do not represent the views and concerns of specific parents. The role of a parent governor is the same as any other governor but also includes providing a ‘parent’s viewpoint’.

Here are some practical ways to help achieve this balance:

- Parent governors are encouraged to express their views in governor meetings.
- Parent governors should promote the interests of all children rather than focusing on their own child.
- Play an active part in meetings and attend governor training.
- Follow the appropriate rules for governor meetings and confidentiality.
- Speak to the Governance Professional who will be able to provide support, advice and guidance.
- It is important that parent governors do not become personally involved in individual parental concerns, instead signpost to appropriate courses of action.
- Declare an interest and withdraw from any discussion where you, a partner or close relative, stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial.
- Promote the school within the local community.

