

Becoming a school governor

Make a difference to your local school and community



School governors are important.

School governors support school leaders at a strategic level with their skills, insights and commitment. They are key in holding the school to account for the educational experience of their pupils.

Working in collaboration, governors are responsible for:

- ensuring clarity and vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff
- overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

The governing body is not a parent teacher association, or a fundraising committee; it has legal standing and is regulated by legislation.



What are the benefits of becoming a governor?

School governors are recognised as one of the largest volunteer groups in England with the ability to positively impact on children's learning and outcomes.

As a school governor, you can **make a difference** whilst learning and developing your personal skill set. Training is available, which can be transferred beyond the governor role and, crucially, gain experience by putting your training into action.

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I truly believe that no school can perform well over a sustained period of time without effective governance

**Lord Theodore Agnew,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools**

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Can anyone be a governor?

Anyone has the potential to be a governor. You will need:

- a passion to support every child achieve in education - committed to ensuring pupils have a positive and safe school environment
- people skills and the ability to work well as part of a team - as the role requires regular attendance at governors' meetings and undertaking school visits
- an open and honest outlook, with the ability to remain objective in order to come to balanced decisions

Specialist skills such as budget management, data analysis, human resources, health and safety or legal work are also beneficial to the role but not essential.

Training is available and encouraged in all aspects of governance, to help you fully understand your role and equip you with additional skills necessary to provide relevant support to your chosen school.

Finding out more

For further information about becoming a school governor, please contact the Governance team at Herts for Learning on 01438 843082 or email: governance@hertsforlearning.co.uk

You may also find the below websites useful:

Herts for Learning: hertsforlearning.co.uk

Governors for Schools: governorsforschools.org.uk

Hertfordshire Association of School Governors: hertsgovernors.org

