

WANTED!

PYE BANK IS LOOKING FOR NEW GOVERNORS



COULD IT BE YOU?



WE ARE CALLING AN ELECTION FOR AN EMPTY SPACE ON OUR GOVERNING BODY, TO BE ALLOCATED TO A PARENT

What do governors do?

School governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools. Governors appoint the head teacher and are involved in the appointment of other staff. It is governors who hold the main responsibility for finance in schools, and it is governors who work with the head teacher to make the tough decisions about balancing resources.

Being a Governor, who is also a PARENT doesn't mean that the job is any different. We have two Governors on our GB who are also parents. We need to elect one new Governor, who is also a Parent.

Each individual governor is a member of a governing body, which is established in law as a '**corporate**' body. Individual governors may not act independently of the rest of the governing body. Decisions are the joint responsibility of the governing body.

The role of the governing body is a strategic one, like a 'board' of a business. Its key jobs are to:

- set the aims and objectives for the school
- set the policies for achieving those aims and objectives
- set the targets for achieving those aims and objectives
- monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives
- be a source of challenge to the headteacher to make the school the best it can be.

The headteacher is responsible for the day to day organisation, management and control of the school and for implementing the plans and the direction that the Governors have for the school.

Being a Governor who is also a parent puts you in a unique position on a governing body. Not only do parent governors have to work in the best interests of the school, but they have to balance this with their natural desire to see the best outcomes for their own child(ren). That can be hard sometimes.

As a parent governor it will sometimes feel that you have to know everything about the school, but can't talk about it; you have to be on everyone's side; if you don't do paid work, people imagine that you have loads of free time.....and you have to be able to juggle all these expectations. As a parent you will already be an expert juggler, but developing your role as a governor will take time.

THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT TIME COMMITMENT IN BEING A GOVERNOR IN TERMS OF ATTENDING AND PREPARING FOR MEETINGS AND WORK IN SCHOOL.

Parent governors are:

- ✓ well placed to understand parents' views and to remind the governing body how matters being discussed affect parents;
- ✓ individuals! How you vote on any decision is up to you;
- ✓ in a good position to help the governing body to communicate effectively with parents;
- ✓ equal in status to all other governors.

Parent governors are not:

- ✗ expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to the governing body;
- ✗ simply expected to represent the interests of parents;
- ✗ a link between parents and the governing body;
- ✗ expected to vote as instructed by other parents.

What are the good bits about being a governor?

- You have a very privileged and responsible role.
- You have the opportunity to make a difference, not only for your children, but for children in years to come.
- You have the opportunity to make a difference for other parents, and to influence the way in which school works with them.
- You will learn a lot and develop new skills.

What you will need to do as a Governor?

- Attend governing body meetings regularly and play an active role in committees and decision-making.
- Learn all you can about the school.
- Consider how the governing body communicate with parents? Could you help them to improve links?
- Learn how the school handles complaints and read the complaints policy. If another parent approaches you with a complaint, advise them to speak to the headteacher.
- Be approachable to other parents, but make sure you are clear about your role.
- Always represent the school positively.
- As a governor you are one of a group and must never act alone.
- Always support the decisions of the full governing body. Have your say on decisions in meetings and vote in the way you wish; but then support the outcomes of votes – even if you disagree with them.
- Always, always, always observe confidentiality. You will get to know a lot of highly sensitive and confidential information – don't discuss it with anyone who is not a governor.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR AND WANT TO MORE PLEASE COME ALONG TO OUR MEETING ON MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH AT 2.30PM FOR A MEETING WITH MRS ANDREWS TO FIND OUT MORE. WE WILL THEN SEND OUT NOMINATION FORMS AFTER HALF TERM.