



Executive Headteacher: Mrs Cathy Draper

Vacancy – Co-Opted Governor Short Heath Federation

Lane Head Nursery School, Rosedale CofE Infant School and Short Heath Junior School

Short Heath Federation is an incredible organisation to be involved with. I really would recommend that you follow this link to find out a little bit more about us.

<http://www.short-heath.walsall.sch.uk/our-school/about-the-federation>

Our Governing Board is exceptional and our schools all value the huge difference that our school governors make to improving outcomes for our children, families and the community we serve. Being a school governor is a rewarding and very interesting role. It gives you the opportunity to make a difference for children, sharing your knowledge, skills and expertise. You will also learn and governors find that this can be a valuable Professional Development Opportunity.

School governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the UK. They provide schools with strategic leadership and accountability for educational and financial performance.

The three core functions of a school governing board are to:

- **Hold school leaders to account for the educational and financial performance of the school**

Governors create robust accountability for school leaders through rigorous analysis of performance data and financial information.

- **Set the school's vision and values, and the strategy for achieving this vision**

The school's vision centres on pupil progress and achievement. Working with senior leaders, the board sets strategic objectives to help the school reach its goals.

- **Ensure the school's financial success and probity**

The governing board must ensure that the budget delegated to the school by the local authority is managed effectively, and with regard to value for money.

Responsibilities:

- Develop the school's vision and strategy
- Set a culture of high educational standards, which promotes staff and pupil wellbeing
- Ensure the school follows the National Curriculum, and that all pupils, including those with special educational needs (SEN), can access the curriculum
- Monitor provision for pupils with SEN
- Monitor the school's educational performance, using a range of data sources
- Ensure stakeholders (parents, pupils, staff, the local community) are informed and consulted as appropriate
- Approve the school budget
- Monitor and evaluate the school's financial performance
- Approve and review school policies, and hold staff to account for their implementation

- Ensure the school is compliant with legal requirements, including that all statutory policies and documents are in place
- Carry out the appointment and performance management of the headteacher
- Monitor and evaluate the school's staffing structure(s)
- Monitor health and safety in the school
- Work in co-operation with the local authority, having regard to any guidance it issues

Skills and experience

Essential:

- Critical listening and ability to ask effective questions
- Strategic thinking
- Excellent communication
- Problem-solving and analysis

Desirable

- Understanding of data
- Finance and/or accounting knowledge
- HR experience
- Knowledge of education
- Leadership and management skills
- Risk management skills
- Legal expertise
- Marketing and communications skills

Time commitment

The time commitment for school governors will vary. However, all governors must attend at least 3 meetings of the full board per year. The term of office is 4 years.

Usually governors sit on a committee focused on an area they have knowledge of, or are particularly interested in, for example the finance committee. Committees generally meet up to 3 times a year, although some have 6 meetings pa. Preparation for meetings includes reading papers and preparing questions for senior leaders.

You will also be expected to undertake any training required to enable you to discharge your role effectively.

Governors are also expected to visit the school while it is open to pupils.

If you would like to know more about becoming a school governor, you can get in touch with the chair of governors, Lesley Foster

Email: lfoster@shortheathfederation.org.uk

or through our Executive Headteacher – Cathy Draper, Email: cdraper@shortheathfederation.org.uk

Or Telephone Short Heath Junior School on: 01902 368499