

## **ROLE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNOR**

The purpose of a Governor is to contribute to the work of the Governing Committee in providing a high quality education and improving outcomes for all children at the school. This involves providing a strategic view for the school, acting as a critical friend and ensuring accountability.

Governors are there to represent the best interests of the school and **all** its children.

A Governor has many responsibilities and these include:-

- Being involved in developing the Strategic Development Plan for the school
- Determining the vision, aims, and priorities of the school within the wider BWMAT strategic plan
- Monitoring and evaluating the work of the school, for example in the progress of pupils including SATs results.
- Being involved in staff appointments, in conjunction with Senior school leaders and BWMAT central team staff
- Proposing and monitoring the budget
- Ensure that all children in the school have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which is suitable to age, aptitude and ability and which nurtures the whole child and encourages respect for others
- Ensuring the Health and Safety of children and staff
- Ensuring safeguarding measures are in place and effective
- Maintaining and improving the school environment
- Evaluating the impact of the Governing Committee's work and contributing to its

There are several tasks for Governors to undertake and they include:-

- Get to know the school, its needs, strengths and areas for development
- Attend meetings (Full Local Governing Committee meetings and other working groups and committees)
- Work as a member of a team
- Commit to training and development opportunities
- Act within the framework of the policies of the BWMAT, the Governing Committee and legal requirements
- Speak, act and vote in the best interests of the school and the BWMAT
- Understand its targets and performance
- Awareness of the OFSTED Framework
- Respect all Governing Committee decisions and support them in public

### **Person Specification**

Governors have a variety of skills and knowledge but there are a number of **essential** qualities required of any Governor and they include:-

- An interest in the education of all children
- Committed to the vision and values of the school
- Sound communication skills in listening, speaking and writing
- Assimilation skills to help absorb and make use of wide ranges of information and data

- The capacity to develop specific knowledge and understanding of the school and its community
- A sense of fairness
- A commitment to equalities
- A commitment to securing the best educational outcomes for all children
- Tact and diplomacy
- An ability to work as a member of a team
- An ability to respect confidentiality
- A willing constructive work ethic with a team of Governors who have some or all of these qualities
- A commitment to participate in training and self-evaluation

The points below summarise what is expected of each Governor as a minimum requirement:-

- Attend Full Governing Committee meetings (usually 6 a year) and sub-committee meetings (usually 6 per year). Meetings are usually held after school or in the evening. Committee meetings are often held online, whereas full LGC meetings are likely to be in person
- Participate in adhoc meetings such as to review complaints or appeals
- Prepare for meetings by reading Agendas, Papers and Minutes
- Check school email accounts regularly to keep up to date on communications
- Attend training sessions as appropriate and a commitment to personal development
- Be a challenging friend ready to offer constructive criticism and support the school community
- Be prepared to visit the school at least twice a year within the working day
- Be prepared to act as Governor 'lead' for a specific focus eg. Health and Safety or Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Be prepared to consider working towards becoming Chair of the Governing Committee or a Committee Chair