

What are the ways to become a School Governor?

School governing bodies are made up of between 9 and 20 governors. Each governing body chooses its size and composition from the options available in the regulations. Most governors serve for a four-year term of office.

There are a number of routes to becoming a governor including :

Parent Governors - nominated and elected by parents of pupils on roll.

Community Governors - nominated and appointed by the governing body. They may be people with particular skills who work or live in the area and wish to make a contribution to the local community.

Local Authority Governors - appointed by the County Council from people with a particular interest in the school or who bring particular skills.

Foundation Governors - appointed by the Diocese and who are usually members of the local church community.

How can You Help?

More school governors are needed from our black and minority ethnic communities to enable governing bodies to become more representative.

As a school governor, you will be making sure the views of your community are recognised and valued.

You will be rewarded with the knowledge that you are making a difference by doing something positive for the next generation.

If you would like to find out more, please contact -

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Further information is also available on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/governors
'Becoming a School Governor'

**Warwickshire
County Council**

in partnership with

**Warwickshire Race
Equality Partnership**

**Children, Young People
and Families**

School Governance and You

**'Using the Skills of all
our Communities'**



*Working for
Warwickshire*

Who are School Governors?

School governors are the most important volunteers in education. They actively help to shape the workforce of the future. The quality of education we provide for today's children will affect the quality of society in the future.

School governors have a very important role to play in making sure all pupils at a school receive the highest standard of education possible and are able to achieve their full potential.

School governors come from all backgrounds reflecting different cultures, communities, work skills and life experiences.

Each school has its own governing body which has specific duties given to it by law including:

- ✓ Agreeing school developmental priorities
- ✓ Monitoring and evaluating the performance of the school
- ✓ Setting school targets
- ✓ Making sure the curriculum is balanced
- ✓ Agreeing school policies

- ✓ Agreeing an annual budget detailing planned spending and staffing
- ✓ Appointment of Headteacher and other senior staff

An effective governing body is a source of enormous strength to a school. Governors provide the Headteacher with support and advice. They ask searching questions whilst respecting the Headteacher's position as professional leader of the school. They share in formulating the school's aims and vision.

Schools are particularly interested in having more governors from black and minority ethnic communities so that all pupils and parents have their values and beliefs represented at an influential level.

If you would like to receive a copy of this leaflet in larger print please contact Ben Hughes on 01926 743055

What do School Governors do?

Being a school governor means being committed to giving time and energy to the role. Each governor has an obligation to contribute to the work of the governing body and to share the load. Governors are asked to take part in regular meetings and to read-up on and find out about the issues being discussed.

In practice, this means going to one or two full governing body meetings each term, together with one or two committee meetings. Most governing bodies hold their meetings on a weekday evening at the school. Governors' understanding and appreciation of the working of the school also benefit from the occasional visit, perhaps once a term, during the school day.

You do not need previous experience of education to be an effective governor. Common sense and the ability to listen and make reasoned decisions together with a commitment to give a few hours of your time are the vital ingredients.

New governors receive full training and support to help them get started in their role.