



Join our Local Governing Board

What is the Local Governing Board?

The Local Governing Board is a group of unpaid volunteers who support the Headteacher in running the School. As Elston Hall is a part of a Multi-Academy Trust, the Governing Board work under the remit of a Board of Trustees. We meet regularly to discuss children's progress and results, acting as "critical friends" to the Headteacher, in order to improve the School's performance. This means that we challenge the Headteacher by asking important questions about what the School is doing to help pupils achieve their full potential. We help the Headteacher manage the School's budget, by ensuring that money is spent on improving outcomes for our pupils.

Who can be a Parent Governor?

When a vacancy arises, you can apply to be a Parent Governor if you have a child (or children) who attends the School. Parent Governors are elected by fellow parents of children at our school.

What Does a Parent Governor Do?

As a Parent Governor you will be able to give us the point of view of parents. Being a Parent Governor does not mean that you get involved in other parental disputes/complaints towards the School, although as Parent Governor you can advise on how to follow the School's Complaints Procedure. Being a Parent Governor means allowing the voice of parents to be heard, without feeling like you must vote on a decision based on their views. You must put forward your own opinion on a decision to be made by the Governing Board.

As Parent Governor, you will be expected to:

- Make yourself known to other parents
- Attend short training sessions paid for by the School
- Listen to concerns and point them in the direction of the School's Complaints Procedure
- Support us in improving the education of all our pupils (i.e. not just your child(ren))
- Play an active part in Governor meetings
- Be enthusiastic about our School and the education of all our pupils

Do I Have the Spare Time?

It is important to consider whether you can give up the time required before applying to become a Parent Governor. Our Governing Board meets twice per term, in the evening, and meetings can last around 2 hours.

What are the benefits?

All Governors are volunteers, so you will not be paid for being a Parent Governor.

However, you will benefit in other very valuable ways, including:

- Gaining an insight into how the School is managed
- Developing your knowledge of finance
- A sense of satisfaction through knowing children will benefit from your efforts
- The opportunity to develop new skills and to strengthen existing ones
- The opportunity to work with new people from different backgrounds
- The opportunity to gain awareness of the education system

Training

As part of a Local Governing Board you will be expected to attend training to help you in your new position. People interested in becoming a Governor may also attend a training session.

Attending courses allows you to meet like-minded people, enhance your knowledge of important issues for schools, and ultimately allows you to feel more confident in your role.

How Do I Apply?

We write to all parents informing them when there is a Parent Governor vacancy on our Governing Board. To nominate yourself, or another parent, please email dcooper@elstonhallprimary.co.uk with a short statement about yourself and why you wish to be nominated / why you are nominating someone else. Alternatively, please contact the school office if you would like a paper nomination form. The **closing date this time around is midday on Monday 15th January 2018**. If there is more than one nomination we will use your statement to give parents so that have a little bit of information about the candidates before they vote.

And Finally...

It is normal for you to feel unsure or nervous about applying. Once you have attended your first meeting, you will see that our Governors are a friendly group of people who simply have our pupils' best interests at heart.

If you have any other questions.....

Please contact Dawn Cooper on 01902 558866 or email dcooper@elstonhallprimary.co.uk
Alternatively, please contact the Services 4 Schools Governor Support Service on 01902 203995

