

22 September 2025

## Board of Governors information

The role of the school governor is vital. School governors form the largest voluntary force in the country and the influence they have over the development of children's education is immense. All schools rely on the willingness and goodwill of governors to give of their free time to help schools develop policy and implement developments.

The Governing Board has three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

A Governor's role can be described as being the critical friend of the school. Whilst being strong supporters and advocates of the school and willing conduits of information between the wider community and the school, it is essential that Boards of Governors act impartially in scrutinising the work of the school and bringing a parental, business and community perspective to the educational planning process.

A key part of the role is to assist in the medium and long-term planning process. The development of a strategic plan is a shared responsibility of the Governors and the school; the Board works closely with the Headteacher to achieve high standards for all students, providing a high quality curriculum and care for each individual. They make decisions corporately which influence and shape children's education; through their commitment, experience and skills, they help schools to improve.

The Instrument of Government provides for 16 members of the Board: the Headteacher, four Parent Governors, one Staff Governor, one Local Authority Governor and nine Foundation Governors. Parent Governors are elected for a term of office of three years.

The full Board normally meets 5 times per year, and there are also a number of Committees with delegated authority. The Committees at JCoSS are as follows:

- Admissions
- Finance
- Inclusion
- Personnel
- Premises
- Teaching & Learning

Governors will serve on two or more of these Committees in addition to the full Board of Governors. Committee meetings normally take place at least termly. Governors are most effective when they get to know their schools at first-hand and can make time to visit the school, guided by priorities in the School Improvement Plan.

Those seeking election may wish to speak to the Headteacher, or the Co-Chairs or Vice-Chair of Governors. A programme of support and development will be made available for Governors, including a JCoSS Governors' handbook. Further information on the role of Governors can be found in the Maintained schools governance guide at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/governance-in-maintained-schools>



Candidates should be aware that, if elected, some of their details (including business interests) are required to be published online by the school. Others are published on a national database, or made available to the DfE, as follows:

**Publicly available information** – National Database of Governors (<https://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/>)

- Full name (including title)
- Appointing body (for example board, foundation, parents etc.)
- Date of appointment
- Date term of office ends (or ended, if this was in the last year)
- Role on the Board of Governors (member or chair)

**Unpublished information** – held by the DfE

- Email address (Chair of Governors only)
- Postcode
- Date of birth
- Previous names
- Nationality

This information will not be published. It will be stored securely on the system and access will be restricted to a small number of people who need it to fulfil their official responsibilities.