

Being a Parent Governor at Capenhurst CofE School

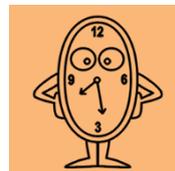
Parent governors are an important presence on our schools governing body because, alongside the staff, no one can be more concerned about the quality of the teaching and learning at our school than our parents. As a parent governor having the children’s best interests at heart means that you’ll also have the school’s best interests at heart. So our parent governors are committed to the school’s continuous improvement for the benefit of all of our children.

By becoming a governor, you can have an impact on the learning and the direction the school is taking. Not only will your efforts as a parent governor benefit the children and the school but it can also benefit your own personal and professional development.

How much time does it take?

Our governors act as a team and the amount of time that each of them can give to the role will vary. Some governors will be able and willing to give a lot more time, whilst others will find that the amount of time they can give may increase or decrease during their period as a governor. If you are serious about helping our school to help children, then you do need to:

- Be willing to prepare for meetings: there can be a lot of papers to read;
- Attend meetings: the full governing body and sub-committees meet just once a term;
- Be able to get to meetings which are held in the evening at 6.30pm;
- Actively participate in meetings, questions welcome!
- Attend school visits once a term ;
- Possibly assist with interviews for school positions after training.



Parents governors are:	Parent governors are not:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Well placed to understand parents’ views and to remind the governing body how matters being discussed affect parents; ✓ Individuals! How you vote on any decision is up to you; ✓ In a good position to help the governing body to communicate effectively with parents; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to the governing body; ✗ Simply expected to represent the interests of parents; ✗ A link between parents and the governing body; ✗ Expected to vote as instructed by other parents.

You are perfect if you can offer:

- Enthusiasm, commitment and an enquiring mind
- A balanced view of parents’ concerns
- Business or key skills – we need a variety of skills to run an effective governing body.

What our current parent’s governors say about the role:

It’s great knowing you make a difference to your child’s and other children’s education

It’s a privilege to be a parent governor and be involved in ensuring our children get the best education in a caring environment

I enjoy it and I’ve learnt a lot. I like being involved with the school and making a contribution

“ Being a parent governor can be one of the most rewarding and satisfying roles that you will ever have”