



DOVEDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aiming High Together

Would you like to become a school governor? We have vacancies!

We have vacancies coming up for school governors here at Dovedale Primary School.

Interested?

We are looking for dedicated individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of children and are willing to share their experience in an educational environment.

We need **parent** governors and **community** governors...

What's the difference?

Parent governors are elected by parents. They don't represent parents' views but, as parents, bring their experience of being a parent to the board. The election process will be advertised soon with instructions on how you can stand as a candidate for election.

Community governors are appointed for the skills they can contribute to the governing body. The school has an appointment process for community governors which includes completing an application form, having a short interview and visiting the school. This provides an opportunity for both you and the school to make an informed decision about your potential appointment. The school will also take up references before confirming their decision to appoint.

We are currently particularly seeking skills in finance and education to strengthen the skills profile of the board, but most important is your commitment to the school, teamworking and a willingness to contribute to the board.

What do governors do?

Being a governor is a voluntary role.

Governors help set the aims and objectives for their school and agree the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives. They monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the headteacher. You will be expected to take a 'link governor' role, focusing on a particular area of school life on behalf of the whole board.

Governors work co-operatively with other governors in the best interests of the school.

Governors must abide by the [7 Principles of Public Life](#): selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

How much time does it involve?

The average time commitment is about five to eight hours per month, although it will vary.

Your role will include:

- Preparing for and attending meetings. We meet 6 times a year either in person or via Microsoft Teams. Meetings are normally held on a Wednesday evening 5-7pm. Before meetings there will be papers that need reading such as policies, reports and data information.
- Taking part in occasional school visits/meetings with a particular focus during the school day
- Supporting some of the school's activities in an informal way to get to know the school

Is any training needed?

You don't need any specific training to be a governor. However, as a new school governor you will be expected to take part in training to help you understand your role and develop your knowledge and skills. You will also need to undertake some essential training, including safeguarding and data protection.

How long will my role last?

The term of office for a governor is four years. If you are a community governor you can choose to serve multiple terms if this is approved by the governing body.

If you are a parent governor, your appointment doesn't end when your child leaves the school but it can carry on for the full term if you wish. Many parent governors choose to offer their services as a community governor at the end of their term and are co-opted onto the board if there is a suitable vacancy.

You can resign before your term is finished if your circumstances change.

Applications & more information

If you would like some more information about becoming a school governor and what it involves or if you would like to apply to be a community governor, please <mailto:ddakin@sawley-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk> or contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange to discuss it with you in more detail.

Parent Governor Election information will be published in the next few weeks.