



School Governor Vacancy

The Governing Board for Downsway Primary School is looking for two new Governors with **professional backgrounds** to join our team of dedicated volunteers. We are seeking individuals who have a genuine interest in education to be a part of our team. You will be joining a diverse group of people, bringing a valuable range of experience, skills and knowledge to the school.

The role of the governors is a strategic one; working closely with the Headteacher and other senior leaders in leading the school, setting the vision and establishing the right culture in which to drive forward improvement. The core responsibilities of a governor are as follows:

- Defining and implementing a strategy for the long-term future of the school
- Setting the school's aims and values
- Ensuring accountability at all levels
- Providing support and challenge to school leaders
- Monitoring and evaluating the school's overall effectiveness
- Setting the school's budget and monitoring spending to ensure financial resources are well used and value for money is secured.

We are interested in meeting people with skills and expertise in the following sectors; Advertising and Marketing, Education, Human Resources management, Estate management, Law and Project Management. However, if you are a professional from another sector we would also be keen to hear from you.

School Governors are the largest group of volunteers nationally, and in addition to giving something worthwhile back to the local community, it is also a good way to utilise your own transferable skills and experience in another environment. Being a Governor requires a serious degree of commitment in terms of time to attend meetings, and a willingness to learn. Governors are expected to attend all meetings which are held **monthly on Wednesdays from 4pm**, and usually last around two hours. We also expect new governors to undertake initial induction training to understand their roles and responsibilities, and thereafter commit to on-going training during their period of office. New Governors are assigned a mentor to help them to develop and understand the role.

For further information about the roles and responsibilities of Governors, please take a look at the Department of Education's Governance Handbook (March 2019) and the Competency Framework for Governance (Jan 2017) which defines the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed for effective governance.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a Governor, please contact our Clerk to Governors, Carol Flach (clerk@downsway.w-berks.sch.uk)
Alternatively, please contact our school office (office@downsway.w-berks.sch.uk)

May 2019