



Aiming High, Achieving Together

Merton Infant School
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School Governor Vacancies

Merton Infant School - Basingstoke

Our Governing Body is made up of Parents, Staff, Local Authority and Co-opted Governors. Co-opted Governors include both parents and members of the community. We currently have opportunities for both Parent and Co-opted governors.

Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young children, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment.

Schools need governing boards that have a balance and diversity of knowledge, skills and experience to enable it to be effective. Anyone aged 18 or over can be a governor or trustee (but there are some exceptions) and you do not need to be a parent of a child in the school. There is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute.

Our school needs and would benefit from a range of professional knowledge on the governing board including finance and fundraising, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, IT and social media, property and estates management, and organisational change.

You should be prepared to commit to the role, be confident in having courageous conversations; curious with an enquiring mind; able to challenge the status quo to improve things; collaborative to build strong relationships, creative and innovative.

As a governor or trustee, you will be able to:

- Use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations
- Make a valuable contribution to education and your community
- Support and challenge the school so that it continues to improve and grow
- Bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights to decision-making in the interests of the school community

Headteacher: Mrs Larissa James BA (QTS) NPQH



What governors do?

The governing board provides strategic leadership and accountability in schools. It has three key functions:

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

Governors set the aims and objectives for the school and set 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.

What will be expected of me?

There are 6 meetings per year of the full governing body you will be expected to attend, this can be via MS Teams or in person, as well as a small commitment for governor training and 2 governor monitoring days per academic year. This may vary if you opt to take on additional responsibilities as part of the Governing Body.

School Governors have a right to reasonable time off work for their public duties, although this may be unpaid. Your company's HR department will be able to tell you about its policy. Whilst being a Governor is voluntary and therefore unpaid, any expenses reasonably incurred in your Governor role can be reimbursed by the school.

For an informal chat about being a Governor please contact Emily Mean, Chair of Governors or Larissa James, Headteacher via the school's email or telephone number above.

Please note all Governors are required to undertake a DBS check as part of the recruitment process.