

Becoming a governor at Guildford Nursery School & Family Centre



Who are governors and what is their role?

Governors are anyone and everyone. They represent the local community, parents and children. They have a key role to play in agreeing the school strategy and also ensuring that the head teacher and staff are achieving the best outcomes for our children. Governors are often described as being a 'critical friend'.

What is the time commitment?

There are always horror stories about time commitments, but once broken down into school terms or school years, being a governor is manageable alongside a job or caring for younger children or older people.

In general, there are four full governing body meetings and three committee meetings each school year. This totals seven meetings of approximately 1.5 hours each.

In addition, each governor is asked to visit the school in some capacity on a termly basis. A visit could be anything from meeting a member of staff, to joining the Christmas lunch or nativity or attending a parents' evening. A visit can be anything from 15 minutes to 1.5 hours.

In between times, there may be the odd email to read and respond.

Is it interesting?

Yes! We've all learned an awful lot during our time as governors and it is really rewarding to see children confidently going on to infant or primary school after their time with us. We're a friendly group too!



What skills do you need?

You don't need any specific qualifications, but you do need to be passionate about your local community and making sure young people get the best education possible.

Governors come from all sorts of different walks of life. When there is a vacancy, the governing body may look to recruit someone with skills that may be missing from its current members, such as a financial or educational background. But this will vary and sometimes enthusiasm is all that is required!

Current governors will act as a 'buddy' to help get you settled into the role. There is also extensive free access to high quality training. This will help you learn about the governor role and how best to contribute. It will also help you develop your own personal skills. This training, along with the experience you gain, can help boost your career prospects.

HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

If you want to become a governor or find out a bit more, please contact the Clerk on clerk@guildfordnsc.surrey.sch.uk