



#### **Get Involved**

We think it's important that governance in our schools should be representative of the local community. Each of our schools has a Local Governing Committee, with representatives from parents and community members. We also have a Board of Trustees, who are accountable for all the schools in the Trust and provide oversight as a group of schools.

#### Make a difference

Governors provide critical challenge and support to the leadership team of the school with the ultimate aim of improving student progress and outcomes. Taking a governance role is a unique opportunity to positively influence children's lives.

## **Get to know your community**

Governors are part of the strategic leadership team. Our schools are at the heart of their communities, and it is part of the role of being a governor to ensure that we are accountable to the area we serve, representing the community as a whole.

#### **Develop your skills**

You can expect to develop a range of both new and existing skills. Training is provided and there is a wealth of independent training providers which offer opportunities for professional development.

You might want to develop your professional expertise in a specific capacity, or it could be softer skills like team working as the governing committee deliberate and reach a significant decision.

# Improve your knowledge about the education sector

School staff make up part of a governing body so as a governor you are not expected to have a working knowledge of the education sector. What is more important to the role is a specific working skill set relevant to the operations of a governing body (eg: data analysis, finance, project management, HR) and commitment to the position.

## It's a challenge

There's no denying that being involved in governance is a challenge, but that's a good thing. The role should be a challenge (because it's important) and it can put you out of your comfort zone when you have to get to grips with new policies, procedures and challenges.

This challenge does not necessarily mean the role is time consuming – though of course it can be – but it will certainly, at least initially, challenge you to think in new ways and work with new people.

## It's rewarding

Knowing that you are making a difference to children's lives is the most reward anyone could wish for. And you do. The support and challenge from governors ensure that no child is left behind and no child in invisible. Every child achieves, belongs and participates.

We are currently looking to recruit community governors for The Castle School in Taunton and would welcome enquiries from people in the Taunton community. Parents with children at the school can also be community governors.

For further information, please contact:

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"It is a real privilege to be part of the Castle Partnership Trust. Working together with professionals, leaders, dedicated staff members and other Governors to ensure that every child achieves the best possible education."



Trish Rendell Chair of Governors, The Castle School