



17th April 2018

WOULD YOU MAKE A GOOD SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

All over the country, School Governors are helping to ensure that children get the best from their time in school. Here at **Deptford Park Primary School**, we are looking for people to become Parent Governors.

As a parent or carer, you naturally take a keen interest in your child's education. Now here's your chance to influence the key decisions affecting all children at our school and to make a real contribution to the local community.

Governors make strategic decisions about the running of the school, including the curriculum, target-setting for pupils and staff, how the school should improve, the budget, staffing, health and safety and the management of the premises.

We want people who can bring energy, ideas and experience of life to support school staff in the organisation and management of schools. We want people who will act as ambassadors for the school and be visible to other parents.

You don't need formal qualifications or particular skills. Everyone has something to offer. In addition, being a Governor provides opportunities to develop new skills as well as practice existing ones.

It is the Governing Body's policy that all Governors undergo a Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) check (this was previously known as a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check). The school pays for this.

Governing Bodies act corporately and are collectively responsible for decisions. The emphasis is very much on collaboration with other Governors and the Headteacher

As a Parent Governor you would have a particularly important role. You are often in school every day. No doubt you talk to other parents, teachers, teaching assistants and support workers on a regular basis. Your child or children will talk to you about their experiences in school. You will need to balance your valuable personal insights with your role as a representative of the Governing Body.

HOW MUCH TIME WOULD YOU NEED TO COMMIT?

You will need to be able to dedicate some time to the role.

As well as attending two Governing Body meetings a term (these take place in the evening and crèche facilities are available at no charge), you will be expected to serve on at least one of the Governing Body's sub committees (these meet once or twice a term on a different evening to the Governing Body).

You will also participate in recruitment and disciplinary panels and, although you probably spend a lot of time at the school already, you will find it useful to make more formal visits to review particular aspects of the school.

WHAT SUPPORT WOULD YOU HAVE?

Lewisham Council runs training courses to help and support Governors in their role and responsibilities. The induction course takes place on a Saturday; other courses are run in the evening.

In addition, Deptford Park Primary School regularly reviews the skills and knowledge of its Governing Body and organises training to increase and improve its capability. As a new Governor you will be asked to complete a short skills audit to complement this work.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND OUT MORE?

The Chair of the Governing Body, Sue Smyth and our Parent Governors are happy to talk to you about the role and what you can expect. If you would like to meet with them, please ask at the school office and we will arrange a mutually convenient time.

HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

Nomination forms are available from the School reception area.