

# **The Governing Body of Wormley CofE Primary School (VC) Parent Governor Information Sheet**

## **BACKGROUND**

School governors represent the largest volunteer workforce in the country with approximately 1% of adults serving in some capacity at any one time. The governing body of Wormley School has 15 governor positions of which 3 are for elected parent governors. Two of these positions have become vacant. Parent governors are elected by their fellow parents for a period of 4 years, even if their children are due to leave the school in less than 4 years. These roles are vital to a governing body because they ensure that the other governors are kept in touch with the concerns and issues of most importance to our parents.

## **CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution in the community by supporting the school and the education of its children. By working in partnership with the Headteacher, the work of the governing body contributes to raising standards and maximising outcomes for all children. This involves:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding the Headteacher to account for educational performance of the school and its children and the performance management of staff
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure that its money is well spent

Typically a governor's duties will entail attending full governing body meetings (3 per year, 7-9pm) and belonging to a committee, which has 3 to 4 meetings per year. Governors also make visits to the school. Aligned to its

improvement role, the governing body is there to be a "critical friend" who can provide the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of both the Headteacher and the school.

## **TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

Hertfordshire County Council and the Diocese values the voluntary contribution of its governors and in return aims to provide high-quality training and support service. Governors are able to access this support in a variety of ways including training courses and e-learning, a dedicated governance team for governors as well as help from fellow governors.

## **BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR**

Being a parent governor can be stimulating, enjoyable and rewarding. If you have the enthusiasm and desire to become closely involved in the running of the school then please consider putting yourself forward for vacancies that arise. Parent governors are an important component in achieving an effective and well-balanced governing body.

If you wish to be nominated for election for a parent governor vacancy, you will need to complete a nomination form which requires a parent to second your application. In order to be eligible, at the time of election you will need to be a parent or person having parental responsibility for or who has care of a registered child at the school.

The school is committed to safeguarding and parent governors need to complete a declaration form, will be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service and are required to provide details of two referees.

## **Contact for further information The Headteacher or Chair of Governors**