

Get involved in... School governance

Becoming a school governor could be a great way for you to contribute to your local school and learn new skills at the same time.

Why get involved?

Governing bodies are an integral part of the school leadership team. They make decisions on issues relating to the school's curriculum, premises, finances, and can get involved in HR too, such as interview panels. They are also involved in activities such as setting the school's strategic direction and objectives, approving and reviewing the school budget, as well as appointing, challenging and supporting the head teacher.

There are more than 300,000 governors in England – the largest group of volunteers in the country. However, around 11% of the posts are vacant, with the percentage even higher in inner cities. Your skills – whether they are financial, legal or business related – could make a big difference to the governing body of your local school.



Benefits for young people

School governors perform a valuable and important role to ensure that young people learn in a safe and professional setting.

Both students and schools benefit greatly from school governors' business expertise. Your experience in building or running successful organisations in the public, private or voluntary sector can help to create a successful learning environment.

Benefits for employers

Being a governor is both challenging and rewarding. You will feel a strong sense of satisfaction through knowing that children will benefit from your efforts. You will gain good understanding of areas like finance, personnel and strategic planning – and you will also get a valuable insight into the education system as a whole.

Next steps

For more information about school governance, go to the School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SGOSS) website at www.sgoss.org.uk

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact Steve Acklam at the SGOSS on **020 7354 9805** or email info@sgoss.org.uk. You can also apply to become a governor directly through the school or by speaking to your local authority.

