

## Quick Facts

- \* **Governors are one of the largest volunteer groups in the country.**
- \* **The Diocese has 103 Schools and Academies under its care, all with a Governing Body of between 7 and 18 members.**
- \* **Governing Bodies normally have five groups that appoint or elect people to the body; Parents, Staff, Local Authority, Foundation and Co-opted (who are appointed by the Governors)**
- \* **Schools supported by the Diocese operate under a Trust Deed and as an extension of the Churches work supporting the community.**
- \* **Currently, just under 25000 children and young people attend Schools and Academies supported by the Diocese.**
- \* **The Governing Body is a corporate identity meaning it makes decisions and not its individual members.**
- \* **Governors do not judge the quality of teaching but will receive information from the Head and other external bodies.**
- \* **Governors are equal and no one member of the body has any more of a vote or say in its decisions**
- \* **Decisions are normally made by vote or secret ballot**
- \* **Most Governors will attend around 6 meetings per year although this can be more**
- \* **Governors normally allow around 10 hours per month for their work. This includes meetings, reading and preparation, attending the school for monitoring and fact finding.**



**Find out more by contacting your local  
School or email **Niki Paterson**  
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### The Diocese of Canterbury

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**Fellow Pilgrims**

**The Diocese of Canterbury**

**Changed Lives → Changing Lives**

**Volunteer  
as a  
School  
Governor**





## Support children and young people in reaching their God-given potential.

**Do you want to be part of transformational change?**

**Do you have an interest in helping or supporting young people and their education?**

**Do you feel that values such as friendship, trust, peace and forgiveness should play a part in a person's development?**

**Do you have the occasional evening or day to spare?**

**If the answer to these is 'yes', then being a School Governor maybe the role for you!**

### **What do Governors Do?**

Governors in our Schools and Academies have three core responsibilities

1. Setting a vision for what the School or Academy could be and Strategy for how to achieve that vision.
2. Holding the leaders to account for the continued improvement and high standards of education and learning
3. Making sure that Finances are well spent and for the benefit of all students

In our schools Governors have an additional responsibility. Our Schools are at the heart of mission and will have a Trust Deed outlining their purpose in preserving and developing distinctive Christian ethos and vision .

To perform these roles Governors attend meetings in the evening and during school time. They have an array of responsibilities but ensuring each pupil flourishes and achieves their potential are at the heart of the Governors work.

### **Who can be a Governor?**

**Anyone** over the age of 18 can become a Governor. You don't need to have children attending a school or academy and you don't need to have a background in education.

People who become governors come from all walks of life and from a variety of personal and professional backgrounds.

### **Key skills needed?**

Each individual school or academy will have particular skills that they need from prospective volunteers. Most bodies welcome members with professional experience in;

- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Marketing
- Strategic Thinking

These help, but according to existing Governors other skills are also vital ;

- ◇ An understanding of children's spirituality and spiritual development
- ◇ Able to promote community and build bridges with community, church and school
- ◇ A passion for wellbeing
- ◇ Commitment to an education with Christian values at its heart
- ◇ Able to focus on development and be prepared to change things where necessary
- ◇ Can ask questions which lead to positive change
- ◇ Wants to secure the best standards for students regardless of their circumstances
- ◇ Compassion and Enthusiasm

### **What will I get in return?**

You'll get a new challenge, professional development, an opportunity to learn new skills and work as part of a close knit team.

You'll also be helping to ensure the students in the school receive a first class education and the opportunity of a life-enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and the person of Jesus Christ.

**' I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full'  
John 10:10**