

Would You Make A Good School Governor?



Growing the right way for
a bigger, better Peterborough

PETERBOROUGH

CITY COUNCIL

All over the country, school governors are helping headteachers and staff in schools to promote high standards of educational attainment. Here in Peterborough, we are keen to help schools to attract volunteers from the community to become school governors. We are looking for people who can bring energy, ideas and experience of life to support school staff in the organisation and management of schools. Governors don't need formal qualifications or particular skills. Everyone has something to offer. School governorship provides opportunities to develop new skills and practice existing ones.

Governors do need to be able to dedicate some time to their role, typically two governing body meetings a term, as well as being prepared to serve on at least one of the governing body's committees. The Local Authority provides a training programme to help and support governors in learning about their role and responsibilities.

What do governors do?

Together with the headteacher, governors set the future direction for the school and decide how the school's budget should be spent. Governing bodies make decisions collectively on matters such as performance targets, school policies, the school's improvement/development plan, and the school's staffing structure.

Governors monitor the impact of policies and oversee the use of the school budget. They report to parents on the school's achievements and respond to inspection recommendations. They hear appeals from pupils and staff and consider complaints.

Governors provide the headteacher with support and advice, drawing on their knowledge and experience. They ask searching questions, but respect the headteacher's position as professional leader of the school.

(Adapted from 'Help Schools Help Children' DfES)

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL
SCHOOL GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT APPLICATION

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

FULL NAME.....MR/MRS/MISS/MS

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....POST CODE.....

TEL NUMBER (Home).....(Work).....

MOBILE.....E-MAIL.....

OCCUPATION.....

EMPLOYER.....

DATE OF BIRTH.....

ANY FORMER NAMES USED (Including maiden name).....

ETHNICITY (Please tick)

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| White, British | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixed, White and Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixed, White and Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black / Black British - Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, Irish Traveller | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixed, White and Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black / Black British - African | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, Italian | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixed, any other background | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black, any other background | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, Portuguese | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian / Asian British – Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gypsy / Roma | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian / Asian British – Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> | Any other ethnic group | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, European | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian / Asian British – Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> | Governor preferred not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White, other | <input type="checkbox"/> | African Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. DETAILS OF LINKS WITH SCHOOLS

DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL? YES/NO

ARE YOU A GOVERNOR AT ANY OTHER SCHOOL? YES/NO

SCHOOL.....CATEGORY.....

HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON A SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY? YES/NO

SCHOOL.....CATEGORY.....

ARE YOU INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING A SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES? YES/NO

PLEASE GIVE DETAILS

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3. INTERESTS AND ABILITIES

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR INTERESTS INCLUDING INVOLVEMENT WITH ANY ORGANISATIONS e.g. COMMUNITY WORK, VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

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DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC ABILITIES OR EXPERTISE YOU COULD OFFER AS A GOVERNOR e.g. SPECIFIC PROFESSIONAL SKILLS, LANGUAGES, TECHNOLOGY?

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4. PREFERENCES

WHAT REASONS DO YOU HAVE FOR WANTING TO BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

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WHAT ROLE/AREA OF INTEREST WOULD YOU LIKE TO PURSUE AS A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

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ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR SCHOOLS, AREAS OF PETERBOROUGH OR TYPE OF SCHOOLS WHERE YOU WOULD PREFER TO BECOME A GOVERNOR? SCHOOL(S).....

AREA(S) OF PETERBOROUGH.....

TYPES OF SCHOOL (Please tick box(es))

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Nursery | <input type="checkbox"/> | Primary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Secondary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Special | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION OR COMMENTS IN RESPECT OF YOUR APPLICATION WHICH YOU THINK WOULD BE HELPFUL

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6. DECLARATION (Please read carefully)

I declare that I am over 18 and that:

- **I am not** detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- **I am not** subject to a bankruptcy restriction order or an interim order;
- **I have not** had my estate sequestrated and the sequestration order has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- **I am not** subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Act 1986; a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989; a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 or an order made under Section 492(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order);
- **I have not** been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under Section 34 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from participating in the management or control of any body;
- **I am not** included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children and I am not disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under Section 142 of the Education Act 2002;
- **I am not** disqualified from registration for childminding, providing day care or under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;
- **I have not** received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) in the last five years
- **I have not** received a prison sentence of two-and-a-half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor and I have not any time received a prison sentence of five years or more;
- **I have not** been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises in the last five years;
- **I do not** already hold a governorship at the same school.

PRINT NAME.....

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....

All governors are subject to child protection checks and cannot hold an appointment if such checks are refused

For LEA governor appointments, information given on this form may be made available to the public. Please return this form to Peterborough City Council Governor Services Team, Children's Services, 2nd Floor Bayard Place, Broadway, Peterborough PE1 1FB

School Governor Categories

Most governors serve for a four-year term of office

- **Parent governors** – Elected by parents/carers of pupils on the school roll at the time of election. They must be parents/carers of pupils on the school roll to be eligible to stand for election. Parent governors do not have to stand down if their child leaves the school during their term of office, but they are only eligible to stand for re-election at the end of their term of office if they still have a child on the school roll. If there are not enough eligible candidates to fill the number of vacancies, the governing body may appoint someone from outside the school community who has one or more children aged between 5 and 16.
- **LEA governors** – Governors appointed by the Local Authority from nominations put forward by the local political party secretaries, governing body or school.
- **Staff governors** – Elected by, and from, staff at the school. The headteacher is a staff governor unless he or she chooses not to be.
- **Community governors** – Governors nominated and appointed by the governing body. These are people who are representative of the local community. They are chosen to reflect a balance of interests and often include members of the local business community.
- **Foundation governors** – Appointed by the people or organisations named in the instrument of government of a foundation or voluntary aided school.
- **Partnership governors** – Nominated by parents of pupils on the school roll of a foundation school, and by other members of the community served by the school. Nominees must be members of the community served by the school who are committed to the good government and success of the school. The governing body appoints partnership governors from among those nominated. If there are not enough eligible nominees the governing body may appoint their own nominees.

“Governors are the bridge between the school and the community”

Primary school governor

“Governors have a real job to do and it is interesting, challenging and rewarding”

Governor from the business community

“Governors can and do make a difference to children’s futures”

Primary headteacher

“They give headteachers the place, space and opportunity to think”

Secondary headteacher

“They help the head care for the school”

Jim, aged 8

(Taken from ‘Help Schools Help Children’ DfES)

If you are interested and would like to find out more, our Governor Services Team will provide you with information about what is involved, which schools have vacancies, and details of forthcoming training events.

Please contact: Governor Services Team
Children’s Services
2nd Floor, Bayard Place
Broadway
Peterborough
PE1 1FB

Tel: 01733 863642
Email: governor.development@peterborough.gov.uk