



Become a Parent Governor by joining our Local Academy Committee

What is the Local Academy Committee?

The main responsibilities of the Local Academy Committee for Colwich (and of those of the other MAT schools) are to support the vision of the MAT; to provide a monitoring role in connection with the operations of the school and to represent the views of the local community. Governors report to directors through approved minutes and headteacher's regular reports. They meet regularly to discuss children's progress and results, acting as "critical friends" to the Headteacher, in order to improve the School's performance. This means that they challenge the Headteacher by asking important questions about what the School is doing to help pupils achieve their full potential.



Who can be a Parent Governor?

When a vacancy arises, you can apply to be a Parent Governor if you have a child (or children) who attends the School. Parent Governors are elected by fellow parents.

What does a Parent Governor do?

As a Parent Governor you will be able to give us the point of view of parents. Being a Parent Governor does not mean that you get involved in other parental disputes/complaints towards the School, although as Parent Governor you can advise them on how to follow the School's Complaints Procedure. Being a Parent Governor means allowing the voice of parents to be heard, without feeling like you must vote on a decision based on their views. You must put forward your own opinion on a decision to be made by the Local Academy Committee.

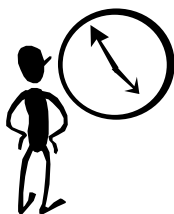
As Parent Governor, you will be expected to:

- Make yourself known to other parents;
- Attend short training sessions paid for by the School;
- Support us in improving the education of all our pupils
- Play an active part in Governor meetings;
- Be enthusiastic about our School and the education of all our children.

How Do I Apply?

We write out to all parents informing them when there is a Parent Governor vacancy on our Governing Board. You will be asked to complete a form, including a short statement about yourself. Parent Governors are voted in by other parents of children at our School, so they will need to know a little bit about you before they can vote.

Do I have the time to spare?



It is important to consider whether you can give up the time required before applying to become a Parent Governor. Our Governing Board meets twice a term, in the evening, and meetings can last around 2 hours. We may also hold additional meetings to focus on specific topics such as curriculum, finance or staffing.

What are the benefits?

All Governors are volunteers, so you will not be paid for being a Parent Governor. However, you will benefit in other very valuable ways, including:

- A sense of satisfaction through knowing children will benefit from your efforts;
- The opportunity to develop new skills and to strengthen existing ones;
- The opportunity to work with new people from different backgrounds;
- The opportunity to gain awareness of the education system.

Training

Training will be provided. Attending courses allows you to meet like-minded people, enhance your knowledge of important issues for schools, and ultimately allows you to feel more confident in your role.

And Finally...

It is normal for you to feel unsure or nervous about applying. Once you have attended your first meeting, you will see that our Governors are a friendly group of people who simply have our pupils' best interests at heart!