# WANTED – A PARENT GOVERNOR

**We are seeking a person who fits the following description**

*School could insert appropriate picture here if available*

- Currently has a child or children in our school
- Has an open and enquiring mind
- Shows a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- Is able to work well with others
- Is interested in education generally and our school in particular
- Has a desire to play a part in improving our school
- Is willing to give about 20 hours per term to attend meetings and training

If you match the above description, you could be the very person to become a parent governor. Everyone has something to offer and we want people from as many backgrounds and interests as possible.

# REWARD

**In return we can offer:**

- An insight into the wider perspective of the school through long-term planning
- A chance to develop skills in strategic management
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our school
- Training to develop an understanding of specific school management issues
- The support and assistance of local and county staff
- A sense of achievement in making a difference to our school
- The pleasure of seeing children learning

**The governing body of our school is responsible for:**

- Ensuring that pupils receive high quality education and that the conduct of the school reflects this aim
- Working with the headteacher on the strategic planning and management of the school
- Considering and agreeing the aims and policies of the school
- Discussing and approving the targets for improvement
- Appointing the staff
- Setting and monitoring the budget
- Monitoring the performance of the school
- Reporting to the parents and community on how we have accomplished our tasks

## GOVERNORS LINK COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS

Governors are the link between the school and the community and representatives of all those with an interest in the well-being and reputation of the school are needed.

We are all volunteers working in our own time, and we are all busy people. However we feel that we gain much in personal development as well as a feeling of satisfaction that we have played an important part in improving education in the local community. There are opportunities to work with others on all aspects of strategic planning and management including financial oversight and personnel issues. Although we deal with the total school finances, we employ staff to do the actual work on our behalf, just as we take an interest in the teaching but employ teachers to actually teach the pupils.

## TEAM WORKING

We work together as a team. Sometimes the whole governing body is involved and sometimes we work in smaller committees or working groups. This gives us the chance to develop specific interests of our own as well as for the benefit of the whole governing body. Those of us who are not currently employed outside our homes, find that being a governor provides an opportunity to get together with other adults who we may never have met in other circumstances, work as team members in a worthwhile cause and develop skills and expertise that we weren't certain we had before joining the governing body!

## DIFFERENT PEOPLE

The governing body seeks individuals from as many different backgrounds as possible in order to fully reflect the community the school serves. Everyone has something to offer. Specific training (free) is available to develop an understanding of school finance and budgeting, strategic planning, and personnel issues and there are staff in both local education offices and headquarters who are there to support and advise individuals and the governing body in their responsibilities.

## REPRESENTING PARENTS

As a parent governor you would be a representative of the parents, but you would not be mandated to vote on their behalf. It may be useful to get the general feelings from parents on various issues from time to time, but in seeking to fill the post of parent governor, the governing body are looking for someone who will help them see the school from the widest possible viewpoint. Parents are vital to the work of the governing body. As a parent governor you will be a governor in your own right with the same responsibilities as everyone else to work together as part of the governing body for the good of the school.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Governors can make a real difference to the performance of the school and have a real part to play in making the school successful. If you are interested in joining us to help improve education for the children in this school, please return the slip at the bottom within the next five days to receive an application form.

Please send me an application form to become a parent governor.

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| **Name:** | |
| **Address:** | |
| Please return this form to the school by: | |

Hampshire County Council

*School could insert their logo here*