

QUICK FACTS:

- Governors are one of the largest volunteer groups in the country.
- Aquila, The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust has 16 schools, 15 of which are Church of England schools, serving over 4000 children across Kent.
- There are usually five groups that appoint or elect people to the Governing Body: parents, staff, foundation, co-opted and the Trust.
- The Governing Body is a corporate identity, meaning it makes decisions as a group not as individual members.
- Governors play a strategic role, offering challenge, wisdom and counsel to school staff.
- Governors are equal and no one member of the body has any more of a vote or say in its decisions.
- Governors usually allow around 10 hours per month for their work. This includes meetings, reading, attending school and fact finding.



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CONTRIBUTING TO MY LOCAL COMMUNITY THROUGH SCHOOL GOVERNANCE WAS SOMETHING I FELT WAS IMPORTANT TO DO. I'M MOTIVATED TO HELP THE CHILDREN TO ASPIRE AND FULFIL THEIR INDIVIDUAL ASPIRATIONS.

- Chair of Governors at an Aquila school

GET IN TOUCH

ADDRESS:

Aquila, The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust
Suites 19 & 20
Motis Business Centre
Cheriton High Street
Folkestone
CT19 4QJ

PHONE

01303 905107

EMAIL

governance@aquilatrust.co.uk

WEBSITE

www.aquilatrust.co.uk

BECOMING A GOVERNOR IN OUR CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS



"They will soar on wings like eagles..." - Isaiah 40:31

WHAT DO GOVERNORS DO?

Governors in our schools have core responsibilities:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school, its pupils and staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
- Reporting to the Aquila Trust Board on performance and operations.

In our Church of England schools Governors have an additional responsibility; to ensure the school adhere to their role and purpose in preserving and developing the distinctive Christian character and vision, is followed and implemented.



WHO CAN BE A GOVERNOR?

Anyone over the age of 18 can become a governor. Governors come from all walks of life and from a variety of personal and professional backgrounds.

Each school will have a particular expertise that they need from prospective governors. E.g. professional experience in finance, health and safety, safeguarding, education and strategic thinking.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

As a school Governor, the key attributes you need are:

- The ability to question and challenge policies and decisions being put forward by the school, to ensure the wellbeing of all in the school community.
- The desire to see every pupil flourish through the removal of barriers and promotion of opportunities.
- A commitment to providing an education shaped by the school's distinctive Christian vision.
- A compassionate and enthusiastic cheerleader of the whole school community

WHAT COMMITMENT IS EXPECTED?

Governors will be required to attend meetings in the evening or daytime, and carry out pre-arranged visits during school time. 6 meetings per year minimum.

Following a meeting, you will be asked to write up any observations, questions and challenges.

Undertake annual safeguarding training and any other training relevant to your role, through Aquila or the Diocese.

Prepare for and contribute to meetings by reading the papers in advance and challenging the information presented.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Becoming a Governor will give you a new challenge and the opportunity to learn new skills, undertake training, and work as part of an effective team.

Not only that, but you'll be playing a vital role in ensuring everyone in the school community, pupils and staff, flourish through an enriching educational experience, where all can grow and develop as individuals.

