

Who'd be a Governor?



- All schools are legally required to have a Governing Body - to ensure procedures are followed, to make sure that things are done properly, and that the school is run safely.
- Schools have a Governing Body to help keep them to the highest standards. We approve some of the decisions made by the Head Teacher and support and challenge the work going on in Whitehill. We aim to help Whitehill constantly improve its facilities and ensure that education for all is the best it can be.
- A Governing Body is made up of Staff Governors, Parent Governors, Co-opted Governors, Associate Governors and LA Governors. Each have different responsibilities but work in Committees which cover Resources (finance, premises and HR) and Curriculum.
- Achievement and safeguarding run through the very core of what we do - making sure every pupil feels safe to achieve their own profound individual growth.

What impact does the Governing Body have on Whitehill?

- The Governing Body helps to make our school environment the best it can be by supporting the Head Teacher and all teaching staff. Governors ensure that all children are happy, safe and that they all achieve their best potential. We also help decide where money should be spent - ensuring Whitehill has the best resources it possibly can, and that money is spent wisely. We also help to make decisions on hiring teachers and staff to help children.
- Each Governor focuses on specific subjects and the learning of different groups of pupils - to offer their support and to monitor what is happening in school. This makes sure that children have the best opportunities in which to learn.
- We hold the school accountable, which means we ensure that the Head Teacher and teaching staff are doing their jobs properly. We ask challenging questions, meet with teachers to understand what's going on, work on action plans and the School Development Plan and know all about the impact of learning in school.

What are the aims of the Governing Body?

Governing Bodies are required to have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Whitehill Governors want our school to be the best it possibly can. We want children to be happy and safe in their learning environment and to have lots of opportunities which will help them to grow up to be good citizens, with a great confidence in their ability to learn and who have a strong understanding of the world around them.

How to be a Governor :

Governors need to be passionate about the school and want the best for the children in it, ask questions about what is being done and why; be able to work as part of a team; have lots of enthusiasm; to work democratically and to put children first all of the time.

There are no specific qualifications needed and there's training once you join, to make sure you have all the information you need to do the job. We sometimes do look for specific areas of experience, depending on who is currently on the Governing Body.

There are several ways in which you can become a Governor. Parent Governors are elected through a voting system - you might have seen our request for a new parent governor at the start of the term: we welcome Sam Atack to the team. If you are interested in being a Governor in the future, we'd love to hear from you.