



St Edward's School
HAMPSHIRE

Governor Information Pack

*“make yourself necessary”
&
help shape the future of
St Edward's School*

Who are we?

St Edward's School, Romsey is looking to appoint a new school governor. If you are a professional, with a passion for education, we invite you to consider joining our Governing Body, to help shape the future of a unique and truly child-centred school.

St Edward's is a day and residential special school providing education and care for boys aged 9 – 18 who experience social, emotional and mental health difficulties (SEMH). The school is a non-profit-making trust which is managed on behalf of Clifton Diocese. The school maintains a Catholic, Christian ethos; pupils are encouraged to have regard for and show tolerance of others, such that they grow into valuable and valued members of their immediate and wider communities.

The education and care of pupils is supplemented by a range of services including; Speech and language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Therapeutic support. Pupils are referred to the school from a variety of placing authorities across the country. The school is highly effective and contributes to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for young people.





What does a School Governor do?

Governors are responsible for overseeing/supporting the management side of a school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing. They enable their school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside the Headmaster, senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide an outstanding education for the children entrusted to our care.

Being a School Governor is a commitment to attending Governing Body meetings which consider issues such as setting the school vision, mitigating financial risk and scrutinising educational outcomes. They are also involved in the school community, acting as critical friends to the Headmaster and senior leaders.

Governors bring a wide range of skills and expertise from their professional lives to the Governing Board and schools benefit greatly from working with skilled volunteers, for example anyone with experience of finance, law, estate management or human resources. A Governor with business acumen can transform the running of a school.



Core Governor Responsibilities

Setting the Strategic Vision

Governing Bodies are the key strategic decision makers in every school. Along with the Headmaster, it is the job of a Governing Body to set the school's aims and objectives around how the school will develop and improve. They agree policies, formulate plans and agree targets to help the school achieve these objectives, as well as regularly reviewing their strategic framework in light of that progress.

Creating Robust Accountability

The Governing Body is there to support and advise the school's senior leadership team. They play a crucial role in holding the Headmaster to account for securing the best possible outcomes for pupils. By challenging key decisions and asking pertinent questions about the school's performance data, Governors aim to guarantee high standards in education.

Ensuring Financial Probity

Governing Bodies have a strategic role in the financial management of schools. Their key responsibilities include, setting financial priorities through the school development plan, business plan and the annual budget. They also advise on how the school's budget should be spent in accordance with the school development plan and statutory curriculum requirement.

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How do Governing Bodies work?

Governing Body Meetings

Full Governing Body meetings are held monthly and whilst there are many important aspects of the role, the most important is the business that takes place at these meetings. There are ten meetings per year, excluding April and August.

School Visits

Governing Bodies are responsible for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of a school and its curriculum. School visits will help Governors to understand more about their school and the reality of school life. Governor visits to classrooms are not a form of inspection but serve as a clear monitoring function on the implementation of the school's strategic planning.

Committee Meetings

A Governing Body is required to have certain statutory committees but may also wish to establish other committees. Most Governors are members of one or two committees, whose work is reported back to the full Governing Body. This is so all Governors are kept informed of matters and working progress. Typical committees include Personnel, Curriculum, Premises, and Finance.

Governors work together to provide independent oversight of the management and operation of a school, with the aim of improving the quality of education provided and raising standards. A school's Governing Body does not run the school on a day-to-day basis; this is the job of the Headmaster and other senior staff.

Reading & Agenda

Prior to meetings, you will receive an agenda, a copy of the minutes from the previous meeting and any other relevant papers that are to be discussed. It is recommended that you take time to read and familiarise yourself with these documents prior to the meeting. Make notes of anything you are unsure of so you can ask questions at the meeting if necessary.



Why become a School Governor?

Being a School Governor is a chance to experience leadership at board level at any point in one's career. Governors balance the school's budget, hire the Headteacher and make strategic decisions. The role provides individuals with the opportunity to develop and hone skills such as negotiation, influencing and teamwork.

Volunteers need to be dedicated people who care about improving education, but they do not need prior board experience. It makes the role perfect for professionals, working or retired, looking to improve their business and leadership skills, give back to society and enhance children's futures.





Commitment Involved

Term of Office - most Governor appointments are for a term of four years.

Liability - Governors are not individually liable.

Training and support

We are committed to ensuring newly appointed Governors are provided with the appropriate training.

Next steps

Request an application form. Email: enquiries@melchetcourt.com

Speak to the Headmaster If you have further questions on 01794 885252

Visit our website: www.stedwardsschool.co.uk



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St Edward's School is a Charitable Trust, Charity Number: 1159721
