



Have you ever considered becoming a School Governor?

I am Annie Allum, the Chair of Governors for the ASPIRE Federation and we are currently looking to recruit new Governors for this academic year from October and I hope it may help spark interest to explain our role.

There are moments when I stop and think, 'Who would be a Governor of a school?' However, there are great pleasures in governorship, as I have discovered over the past few years as supporting, encouraging and overseeing the effective education of pupils - is all extremely rewarding.

'Eyes on, hands off' that is what we do, we are strategic not operational, we watch, we observe, we notice, we write reports and present and discuss those reports at Governing Board Meetings questioning and challenging staff.

People always ask: -

What do School Governors do?

What makes a good School Governor?

What are School Governors responsible for?

The role may sound daunting but Governors play a vital role, and most people enjoy their time as a Governor, as well as appreciating the sense of duty and opportunity to show loyalty and support for their local rural schools.

School Governors bring a wide variety of experience and knowledge from all different walks of life, all contributing to the successful running of the ASPIRE Federation, we are a very proactive, enthusiastic, friendly and committed team.

There is no skill set for an ideal Governor.

As long as you are over 18 years of age, anyone applying who has the enthusiasm, necessary skills and experience to govern effectively and contribute to the success of the Federation would be welcome to apply.

Governors set the ethos of the schools within the Federation and drive for continuous improvement; through challenge and support and they also oversee the financial performance and ensure money is well spent.

The Governing Board has a range of duties and powers and a general responsibility for all the four individual schools within the Federation with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Please be aware as a Governor you will need time for involvement with school monitoring visits and for completing reports to go back to the Board Meetings.

The Board meets six times a year usually in the evening on a Tuesday, from 18.30 until 20.30 hours and we aim never to run over 21.00 hours!

The term of office is usually four years, and during this time you would be expected to attend and contribute thoughts and ideas to the Governing Board's meetings.

There is a legal requirement for all Governors to be DBS checked before starting in their role as a Governor.

The meetings are currently run remotely and this will be discussed again in October 2024 and are attended by approximately 20 people.

Training is provided, you will need to attend an initial New Governor training course and at least three additional training sessions each academic year.

Please note: *It is essential that Governors endeavour to attend all Full Governor Board Meetings held throughout the academic year.*

If you are interested or know someone who may be interested in becoming a School Governor and wish to explore the role further please contact me either via any of the school offices or directly by email AAllum@aspire-kent.org.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.



Chair of Governors
The ASPIRE Federation
(Kingswood, Leeds and Broomfield CE Primary, Platts Heath
and Ulcombe CE Primary Schools)

July 2024