



Governing Board Vacancies

Are you passionate about future generations?
 Do you want to make a difference to young people?
 Would you like to develop your own skills?
 Do you have some time to give to our community?
 Have you ever thought about becoming a school governor?

Highfields School is currently seeking new individuals to join the governing board as community governors. A community governor is appointed by the local governing board if they match the skill set required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

To be a school governor you need:

- an interest in the performance of the school
- a desire to contribute to and represent the community
- an open and enquiring mind
- the ability to look at issues objectively
- the confidence to ask questions and join in debate
- a willingness to listen and make informed judgements

As a governor you will be able to:

- use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations
- develop and utilise your skills in a board-level environment
- make a valuable contribution to education and your community
- support and challenge the school so that it improves for students and staff
- bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights to decision-making in the interests of the school community

The local governing board of Highfields School ensures high standards of achievement for all students in school by:

- setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its students
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

There is training and support for the role including access to external governor online training.

As part of the local governing board team, a governor is expected to:

- contribute to the strategic discussions at governing board meetings.
- hold the senior leaders to account by monitoring the school's performance
- ensure the school staff have the resources and support they require to do their jobs well, including the necessary expertise on business management, external advice where necessary, effective appraisal and CPD (continuing professional development), and suitable premises, and that the way in which those resources are used has impact.
- when required, serve on panels of governors

The role of a governor is largely a thinking and questioning role, not a doing role. A governor does not:

- write school policies
- undertake audits of any sort
- spend much time with the students of Highfields School
- fundraise
- undertake classroom observations to make judgments on the quality of teaching
- do the job of the school staff, including all operational areas

The skills Highfields governing board are particularly looking for are in finance, HR, health & safety, property and estate management or curriculum development.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please get in touch with Angeline Ellson (Chair of Governors) at chair@highfields.derbyshire.sch.uk