Being a School Governor at Newlands

One of the first questions I get asked as Chair of Governors is '***What do Governors really do?***' Well, let me try and provide an overview.

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

1. Contribute to discussions at governing body meetings around the vision and ethos of the school, the priorities and targets ensuring that all children, including those with special educational needs and the disadvantaged, have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Support the setting and monitoring of the school's budget, including pupil premium allocation, the school's staffing structure and other school policies.

2. Hold the senior leaders to account by monitoring the school's performance including asking challenging questions, acting as a link governor on a specific issue, agreeing the outcomes from the school's self-evaluation and future developments as well as listening to and reporting to the school's stakeholders.

3. 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.

4. When required, serve on panels of governors to appoint staff, appraise the head teacher and agree pay recommendations, hear staff grievances, capability and disciplinary matters.

The role of governor is largely a **thinking** and **questioning** role, not a doing role.

To perform this role well, a governor is expected to get to know the school and gain a good understanding of the strengths and areas for development, attend induction training and regular relevant training and development events as well as attend meetings, acting in the best interest of all the pupils within the school, behaving in a professional manner, as set down in the governing body's code of conduct, including acting in strict confidence.

What will I gain from being a Governor?

Through solving problems ranging from finance to site management, human resources to marketing, pupil welfare to curriculum development, every governor is guaranteed to broaden their skills and knowledge in some way, and this can be enhanced through the array of free training offered by the Local Authority.

To find out more take a look at our current Newlands Junior School Website as there is lots to see and read about.

If you feel you have the skills and enthusiasm to join us or would like to find out more information, please contact the school office. office@newlands.notts.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.