



Would you make a good Authority Governor?

If you can answer YES to these questions, why not find out more about the role of a Local Authority (LA) appointed governor?

There are five routes by which people (other than headteachers) can become a governor.

They may be:

- elected by the parents
- elected by the staff
- appointed by the LA
- invited by the other members of the governing body
- appointed by the foundation of the school

Authority governor appointments will be considered by the LA

Nominations are made by County Councillors whose ward the school is situated in or by the governing body of the school.

Appointments are made on the basis of the individual's interest and experience at work, home or elsewhere which may be relevant to being a governor.

Can you spare some time?

Do you enjoy working with other people as part of a team?

Are you interested in serving your community?

Would you be prepared to attend an Induction Course to find out more about your role?

Authority governors represent the wider community they may be able to put forward a broader view than that of other categories of governor.

The governing body acts collectively and the first loyalty of every governor must be to the school. Governors support the staff and headteacher of their school but will also act as a 'critical friend'. The role is strategic not operational. The headteacher and staff manage the day to day running of the school.

Governing bodies meet at least once a term usually in the evening. The meeting may last about 2½ hours. Most governors become members of



committees and these committees would again probably meet once or twice a term. Contact your Local Councillor, headteacher or chair of governors of local schools who will be able to tell you more about their governing body and the commitment involved.



Authority Governors Appointed by the Local Authority

The administration of the appointment of Authority governors is carried out by Cambridgeshire Governor Services on behalf of the Local Authority (LA).

Cambridgeshire does not operate a political quota system for Authority governor appointments. The Local Authority considers nominations from schools as well as from County Councillors.

Consideration of nomination proceeds firstly to the Cabinet Member for Children for comments. The Service Director: Learning confirms appointments. The governor and the school are informed.

It is felt that people best suited to be selected for service as Authority governors are those who:

- have a good understanding of the community
- have the understanding and commitment to work to meet the needs of the school
- are motivated to act in the best interests of the governing body
- are able to participate fully in the work of the governing body

The LA has targets for filling governor vacancies. Authority governor vacancies are given urgent attention, with groups of cases proceeding for consideration on the last Thursday of each month.

For further information please contact Cambridgeshire Governor Services on 01223 715325 or email governor.training@cambridgeshire.gov.uk