EMBARK
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Role and Responsibilities of a Parent Governor

Introduction
A Governor is an individual appointed to a school's Local Governing Team to provide specific skills, experience, and knowledge that will benefit the school's strategic direction and governance. Governors play a crucial role in ensuring that the school functions effectively, achieves its goals, and meets the needs of its young people and community. Governors come from all different backgrounds, and you don't need to be an educational expert to be a governor. Full training and induction will be provided.

Role of a Parent Governor
The role of a Parent Governor is no different to any other governor, however they do bring a parental perspective to discussions. The primary role of Governors is to contribute to the governance and strategic leadership of the school. This involves working collaboratively with other members of the Local Governing Team to set the school's vision, ethos, and strategic direction. Governors hold the Headteacher to account for the educational standards of the school.

Key Responsibilities

- Strategic Planning: Participate in developing and reviewing the school's strategic plans, policies, and objectives.
- Financial Oversight: Assist in monitoring the school's financial performance, ensuring that resources are used effectively and efficiently.
- Performance Monitoring: Review and evaluate the school's educational performance, including student outcomes and staff effectiveness.
- Policy Approval: Approve school policies that aren't provided by the Trust.
- Community Engagement: Foster strong relationships between the school and its community, promoting a positive image and encouraging stakeholder involvement.
- Compliance: Ensure that the school complies with legal and regulatory requirements, including safeguarding and health and safety standards.
- Support and Challenge: Provide constructive support to the school's leadership team while also challenging decisions and practices to ensure accountability and continuous improvement.

Skills and Attributes
Governors collectively bring a wide range of skills and attributes to the Local Governing Team including:

- Expertise: Professional knowledge in areas such as education, finance, health and safety, estates, or human resources.
- Analytical Skills: Ability to analyse data and information to make informed decisions.
- Communication: Strong communication skills to articulate ideas, provide feedback, and work collaboratively with others.
- Commitment: Dedication to the school's vision, values, and continuous improvement.
- Integrity: Uphold high standards of integrity, confidentiality, and ethical behavior.
- Problem-Solving: Ability to identify issues and develop effective solutions.

Time Commitment
Governors are appointed for a 4-year term of office. After your second term of office there will be a review led by the Trust. Governors are expected to attend Local Governor Team meetings 4-6 times per year for approximately 2 hours per meeting. The role involves preparing for meetings by reading reports and documents in advance. You will be encouraged to participate in school visits twice a year to observe and understand the school environment. You will also need to engage in ongoing training.

Conclusion
Governors play a vital role in shaping the future of schools, bringing valuable expertise and perspectives to the Local Governing Team. Their commitment and contributions help ensure that schools are well-governed, financially sound, and focused on providing high-quality education for all young people. By fulfilling their responsibilities diligently, governors can make a lasting impact on the educational outcomes and overall success of the school they serve.

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