

The personal and career benefits of school governance and how you can get involved...



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Funded by the DfE...run by Education and Employers charity since 2016/7...over 6,400+ governors/ trustees placed in English schools...





The need for governance in our schools...

According to the OECD....

1. UK 5th in the world by % GDP for investing in education - £ billions
2. One of the most autonomous education systems in the world
3. The largest ratio in the world between average HT pay and teacher pay

Our own research shows a decade of pos+ change in governance.... the role has never been clearer....





What are the 3 functions of the school governor role?....

1. Ensuring **clarity of vision**, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding executive **leaders to account** for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the **financial performance** of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.



VectorStock



What's the approximate time commitment?...

- 5-8 hours a month
- Usually, a 2+ hour meeting every half-term (6 in a year). These are usually in the early evening.
- Preparatory reading of board papers for these
- Possibly a visioning day/ governor walk day during the year

Then...depending on your confidence/ capacity...

- Recruitment
- Exclusion panels
- Headteacher performance review
- Vice Chair/ Chair/ Safeguarding/ committees/ etc.





Most sought after skills....

DfE Research in 2020 and our own IG search data reveal the top skills that Governing Boards are seeking...

1. Finance
 2. Local, regional, and national policy
 3. Data Analysis
 4. School Improvement/
Educational Expertise
 5. HR
 6. Strategic Planning
- **Legal**
 - Managing well-being/ workload
 - Parental and Community Engagement
 - Premises and Facilities Mgt.
 - Project and Change Mgt.
 - SEND
 - Safeguarding

Our governance research shows the added importance of the additional skills of ...leadership and governance, time, and lived experiences...

You will **ALL** have something to bring to governing!!



Key education challenges and opportunities...

- **More primary schools moving to academy trusts** – leadership of change, due diligence, and consultation
- **Ever more finite resources** – scrutiny of budgets and helping make VFM investment decisions
- **Recruiting and retaining the best staff** – marketing the school, ensuring staff retention, teacher CPD
- **Covid and Catch up** – how to support pupil/ staff well-being, mental health, closing the gap
- **Preparing children for civic society and employment** – how is the school approaching pshe, diversity, career related learning
- **Shaping the next generation..**



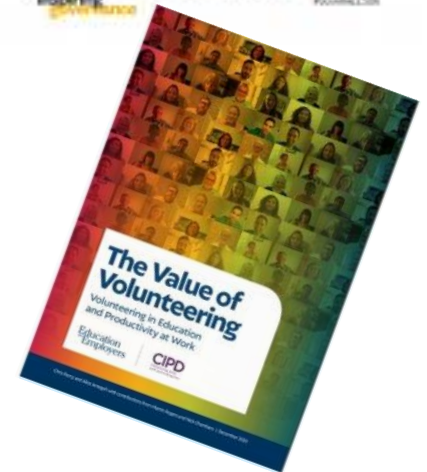
All of these challenges/ opportunities are faced in businesses and organisations across the country!! – you can **all** bring helpful support and challenge!



Why do it?... The benefits...

- IG surveys - 95% enjoying and 97% would recommend becoming a governor to a friend
- Developing strategic board level skills and experience (76% in annual NGA/TES survey)
- Our recent [Value of Volunteering](#) research shows benefits for:
 - personal skill development
 - employer (motivation and productivity)
 - personal health and well-being
- Read our [case studies](#) of people doing the role and what they've gained from it
- For 75% of volunteers, it's still about 'giving back'...

"The greatest thing is being involved in the school community, supporting the education of young people, using my knowledge and skills and developing new ones"





Everyone on Board...

- **6%, 4%, 9% Vs 35%** - a fundamental and growing divergence between those making decisions and those experiencing them?
- Boards too often recruit people 'like them' – independent recruitment important
- Governing boards have a strategic role on race
- Our joint ***Everyone on Board*** campaign with the NGA launched in 2018 – we are working with fantastic partners
- Seeds of hope?..... 30+% of 2021/22 IG appts & 15% of newly appointed governors over the last year from an ethnic minority (*NGA survey 2021*)



Zahawi calls on schools to increase diversity of governors
Education secretary highlights 'vital' need for change



How our platform works....

Sheffield

0 View Shortlist

Activity

Governor for School

Radius

11

Skills

Leave blank for any/all

Interested in specific governance roles

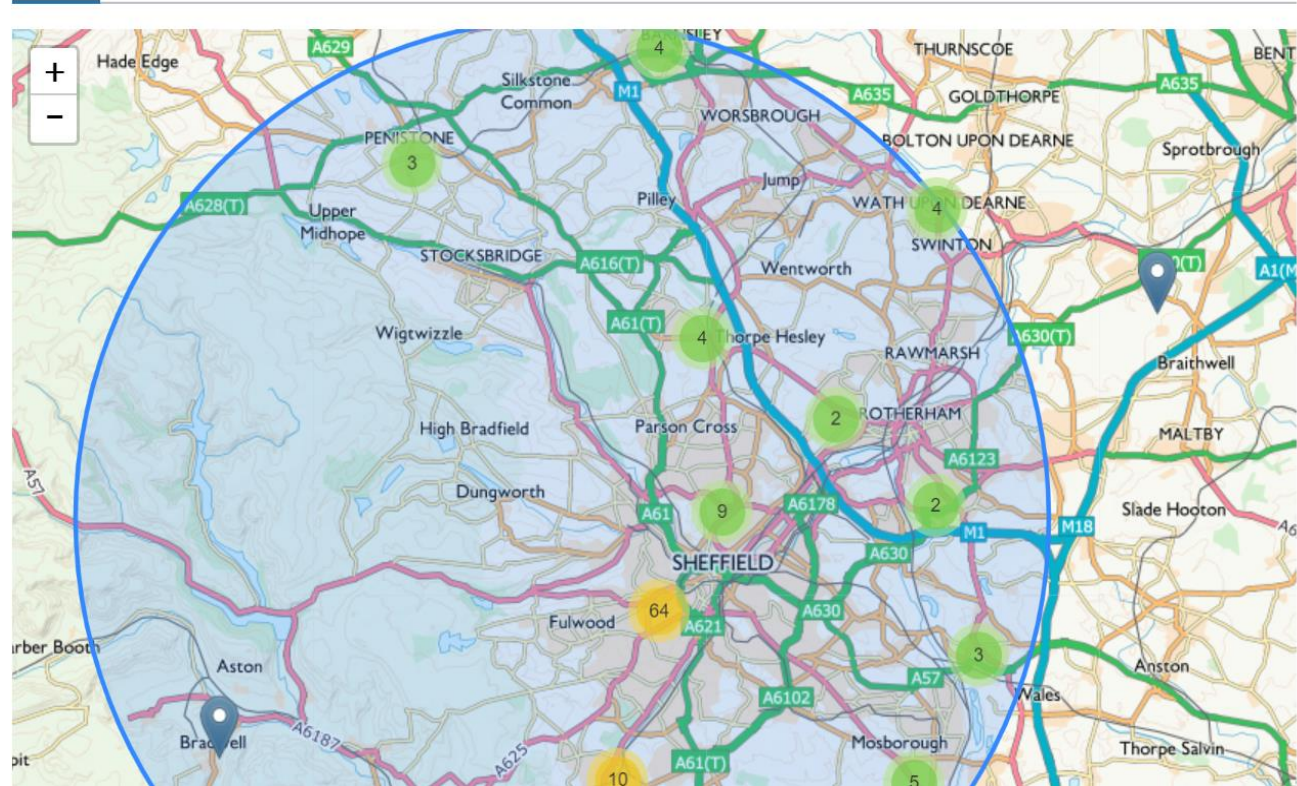
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Please click on the pins to view volunteer profiles. The numbered circles indicate a cluster of volunteers, please click to view. Please leave filters blank if you wish to search for all / any

Reset

Search

Map List





What you will need to have with you/think about

- Where would you be able/like to be a Governor? – Work and Home?
- Type of School – linked to your interests/expertise
- Skills and Knowledge that will help schools
- Personal Statement





What to expect next ?

- Informal chat with Head or Chair of Governors
- Visit to the School
- Interview
- Shadow/attend Full Governing Body
- Board vote



You're a Governor!



You will be well supported in your first year of governance....

- Free copy of the NGA's *Welcome to Governance* guide
- Learning Link – Access to NGA's online modules around governance
- Attend a *Welcome to Governance LIVE* webinar - optional
- Support from the governing board itself, LA governor training available and Governor Associations
- Some boards pair you with a buddy/mentor





Welcome to our Governors...

Lucinda Orr

Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood and Merchant Taylors' Prep

Governor since 2020

Shahmeem Purdasy

Queens' School, Herts (Secondary school)

Governor between 2008 - 2017





Next Steps...

Sign up here

<https://www.inspiringgovernance.org>

For any further questions about signing up
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