



Who can apply

Parent Governors are elected by the parents/carers of pupils, on roll at the school, at the time of the election. They must be parents/carers of pupils on the school roll themselves to stand for election. The term of office for Parent Governors is four (4) years unless varied for the Parent Governor category on the instrument of government. Parent Governors do not have to stand down if their child leaves the school during their period of office, although they may do so if they wish. Parents may stand for re-election at the end of their term of office if they still have a child on the school roll.

Governors must be aged 18 or over at the date they are elected or appointed. There is no upper age limit for serving as a Governor. Elected members of the Local Authority and those who work at the school for more than 500 hours (ie for more than one third) in a year are not eligible to be Parent Governors but can vote in the election if they have a child on the school roll.

For the purpose of the election for Parent Governors, the principles of the **Children Act 1989** suggest that all those with a parental responsibility for a pupil (which may include separated or divorced parents, foster parents, and guardians) be entitled to stand and to vote.

GOVERNOR DISQUALIFICATIONS

No-one may serve as a Governor or associate member who:

- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order, debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or their estate has been sequestered, and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
- is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body
- is included in the list of teachers or workers considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people
- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children
- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for childminding or providing day care
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
- has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a Governor or since becoming a Governor
- has received a prison sentence of two years or more in the twenty years before becoming a Governor
- has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
- has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a Governor.
- refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) for an Enhanced DBS certificate