



Vacancy for Parent Governor

Thank you very much for your interest in becoming a parent governor at Ferndown Middle School (FMS).

School governance is strategic, not operational. The day-to-day running of the school is the responsibility of the Headteacher. The Headteacher fulfils this responsibility through implementing the strategic plan agreed with the governing board. The role of parent governor, is largely a thinking role, not a doing one, and as a member of the FMS School Standards Board (SSB), you will be responsible for monitoring standards, data, and pupil progress as well as financial oversight of the school.

As a parent governor, you would hold the unique position of having a parental viewpoint, however, to be successful in the role of parent governor, objectivity is essential. This is not an opportunity to promote the interests of your own children; it is about being able to recognise the best course of action for all children and the school as a whole. It is a common misconception that by becoming a parent governor you become a spokesperson for all parents or you are able to make changes to how the school is run on a day-to-day basis. standards, development plan and policies.

Members of the SSB come from all walks of life and meet as a group at least once every half term, normally on a Wednesday at 17.00. During these meetings, we look at a wide range of information to find out how well the school is performing. The Headteacher provides a detailed report, but we also look at data and independent reports so that we can make our own decisions about how well the school is performing. In addition to this, governors are involved in important decisions around other aspects of the school such as curriculum and funding and strive to ensure the best outcomes for our pupils and families.

In between the formal meetings, governors will typically go into the school to meet with the Headteacher, other members of staff and pupils to help us find out how the school is progressing towards its development plan and targets.

We attend training sessions and seminars to help us keep up to date with changes in schools and education and to help us do our job effectively.

Governors receive no payment but there is a tremendous sense of satisfaction that each one is making a valuable contribution to the education of all the children who attend Ferndown Middle School.

If you would like to discuss this with me personally before making an application or would like a tour of the school, please contact the Governance Officer (Clerk to SSB) via email clerk@fernmid.dorset.sch.uk or call the school office on 01202 876556.

Mr Phil Gore
Chair of School Standards Board

