

Co-opted Governor Vacancies

St Michael in the Hamlet Community Primary School is a vibrant, diverse and inclusive school at the heart of the community in Aigburth. We are seeking co-opted governors to join our Governing Body from September 2021 to help steer the continued success of the school.

Being a school governor is a rewarding and responsible voluntary role: school governors make up the largest group of volunteers in the country. You don't need to be a parent to be a co-opted governor: we are seeking governors from diverse backgrounds and all walks of life. We are looking for people who can bring skills and experience gained in their work roles, in family or community life to the school.

What is a governing body?

The purpose of having a Governing Body is to:-

- Help the school to set high standards by planning for the school's future and setting targets for continued school improvement;
- Be a critical friend to the school, offering support and advice;
- Help the school respond to the needs of parents and the community;
- Make the school accountable to the public for what it does;
- Work with the school on planning, developing policies and keeping the school under review;
- Exercise its responsibilities and powers in partnership with the Head Teacher and staff;
- Not intervene in the day-to-day management of the school unless there are weaknesses in the school, when it then has a duty to take action.

A school's Governing Body is a corporate body. This means it has a legal existence separate from that of its individual members. Individual governors have no power except where the whole Governing Body has delegated a specific power to that individual.

What does this mean in practice?

It means that it is your role to deal with school policies affecting all children and not to be involved in the day to day management of the school. For example, parents sometimes approach governors about problems to do with their particular child, but this is always redirected to the class teacher or head teacher as appropriate.

It also means that, as a governor, you can't be held to account as an individual for any liabilities incurred by the Governing Body, so long as you have acted honestly, reasonably and within the law as a governor.

As a new governor, you will be given an induction and training which covers all of this.

What is the commitment?

As a co-opted governor we will expect you to: -

- Show commitment to the role and to securing the on-going success of the school;
- To be a link governor for a specific class / area of learning;

- Be committed to on-going professional development to assist in the role of governance;
- To attend the Full Governing Body and specific committee meetings as detailed below;

We will offer to you as a co-opted governor:-

- The opportunity to be part of a welcoming, highly effective Governing Body, committed to the continued success of our school;
- An opportunity for on-going self-development, including training courses;
- The opportunity to help maintain a child-centered philosophy;

Governor meetings to be attended:-

- 3 full Governing Body meetings per year (1 per term)
- 3 committee meetings per year (1 per term)

How to apply

Please submit a pen portrait of yourself using the email below, detailing what you can bring to the role of the co-opted governor at **St. Michael in the Hamlet Community Primary School** and why you think you are the right person for the job. This should be no more than 400 words.

All school governors are required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Check upon appointment.

If you have any queries about applying, please contact recruit@smhsch.co.uk