

### The Role of the Parent Governor

The role of the Parent Governor is no different from those of other Governors. The three main functions of Governance are:

To contribute to the work of the Governing Body in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by:

- Setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money well spent.

Parent Governors are parents of a registered pupil at the school and are elected to the Governing Body by other parents. **They are representative parents as opposed to representatives of parents** and bring a parental perspective to the **strategic** discussion of the Governing Body. They help the Governing Body understand how their decisions impact the School from a parents' viewpoint and work alongside and with the other Governors to ensure the Governing Body fulfils its duty to the children.

Parent Governors are part of a corporate body which means they cannot act individually. Governors make collective decisions and, for all of them, the school comes first, no matter whom they represent. They are expected to **respect the role of school leaders and avoid involvement in operational matters.**

### [DfE School Governors Structures Roles and Descriptors Oct 2020](#)

*"The role of a parent governor is not as a spokesperson for the views of parents. They are the same as any other governor on the board, providing a 'parental viewpoint' i.e. representative parents rather than representatives **of** parents."*

### [Governance Handbook 2020](#)

*The board acknowledges that anyone who is a parent themselves has valuable knowledge and perspectives about the school(s) to bring to bear in discussions and decisions and helps to guarantee that there is always a link between governance and the parent*

Governors are responsible for the progress and well-being of all the pupils and must act as in the interests of the whole pupil body. They must remain impartial and separate their role as a Governor from their role as a parent. They are not there to speak on behalf of parents or bring up their own child and own issues in meetings. They should not bring complaints from parents to the Governing Body and if requested to do so by other parents they should inform them to follow the school complaints procedure.