Christleton PRIMARY SCHOOL

Be the best you can be

Becoming a Parent Governor

A practical guide for parents and carers

ONE VACANCY	SIX MEETINGS	USUALLY 4 YEARS
Currently available	One each half-term	Term of office

What does a parent governor do?

Governors help shape the school's future by setting its strategic direction, scrutinising educational standards, holding leaders to account and overseeing the effective use of resources. **They work for the benefit of all pupils** rather than representing individual parents or dealing with day-to-day school matters.

What time commitment should I expect?

- The full Governing Body meets six times each school year — once every half-term. Meetings usually last around two hours (approximately 12 hours in total).
- Governors read meeting papers beforehand and contribute to discussion and decisions.
- There is also induction and ongoing training, with occasional school visits, committee or panel work where agreed.

The overall commitment is therefore greater than meeting time alone.

How long is the appointment?

The normal term is **four years**. A parent governor can usually complete their term even if their child subsequently leaves the school.

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Who can stand for election?

Parents and carers aged 18 or over who have a child registered at Christleton Primary School at the time of election may stand, subject to statutory eligibility requirements. **No previous governance experience or specific qualification is needed.**

We particularly welcome interest from those with experience in education, including teaching, early years, SEND or school leadership, while warmly encouraging applications from all backgrounds.

You cannot stand if you are an elected member of the Local Authority, are paid to work at the school for **more than 500 hours in any consecutive 12-month period**, or meet other statutory disqualification criteria. Full eligibility information is provided separately.

How does the election work?

Complete the nomination form and return it by the deadline in the accompanying letter. You may include a personal statement of up to **250 words**. You may nominate yourself or another eligible parent with their consent. If more than one eligible candidate stands, a **secret ballot** will be held and eligible parents will be given voting instructions, including a postal voting option. If only one eligible candidate stands, no ballot is needed.

What support is provided?

The role is voluntary and unpaid. New governors receive support and are expected to complete induction training. All governors must act objectively, maintain confidentiality, declare relevant interests and complete the required safeguarding checks.

Interested or have questions? Please contact Mr Mitchell, Headteacher, through the school office.

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