



## Becoming a Governor at Forest Lodge Academy

Governors volunteer their time, energy and passion to help schools become the best they can be for pupils and local communities they serve. They bring together different views and skills to plan the future direction of their school with the Headteacher, and to ensure the school stays on track to achieve that plan. At Forest Lodge, our Governors are drawn from parents, staff and the wider community, and work closely with the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust to focus specifically on the quality of teaching and learning, the success and development of the children, and the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

To help you understand more about the role, requirements and benefits of becoming a School Governor, we have answered some of the questions we are frequently asked.

### **What do School Governors do?**

School Governors work collectively to steer and provide assurance of the educational performance of the school.

We oversee the plans put in place to drive continuous improvement in the quality of education, pastoral support and broader ethos of the school. Through regular engagement with different members of the school community and evidence of pupil outcomes, we monitor and hold senior leaders to account on progress towards those plans.

### **I'm already busy. What's the time commitment?**

We meet together each half term as a full governing body and engage individually through visits, briefings or attending school events in between. We split our time between maintaining an overview of the breadth of the School's activity and diving into the progress being made towards areas of strategic priority. Governors should be able to commit around one day per month on average, with more of this concentrated in term time.

### **What support is available to me?**

You will join an experienced team of Governors who are on-hand to provide support and guidance as you get to know the School and the role. development as a Governor. You will have full access to an on-house programme of governor training and resources.

### **Who is on the Academy Governing Board?**

Our membership comprises two parent governors, four community governors, the Headteacher and two staff governors.

The different skills and perspectives of each School Governor helps us to form a rounded view of how the school is performing. We value diversity of experience and background in order to help us make the best decisions possible.

### **Do I have the experience to be a Governor?**

Between our nine members, we each bring different strengths that collectively allow us to fulfil our role. This means that no one member needs to tick every box, but rather we are able to value and bring on board members with depth of expertise in particular areas or a strong connection to our local community. Above all, we are interested in people with a passion for tackling the barriers our pupils face in their education, personal development, wellbeing and future success.

### **How would I benefit from being a Governor?**

Being a Governor is a fantastic opportunity to support young people in our community to have the best chances in life to grow and succeed.

In addition, there are practical benefits for you. You will have the opportunity to develop and hone your professional skillset, including strategic planning, leadership, chairing, influencing and taking evidence-based decisions.