



Parent Governor Information

The role of the school governor is absolutely vital. School governors form the largest voluntary force in the country and the influence they have over the development of children's education is immense. As a stand-alone academy, the Governors at Hendon School are the employers of all staff who work on the site and the school owns its own land. This brings great responsibility. All schools rely on the willingness and goodwill of governors to give of their free time to help schools develop policy and implement developmental ideas. The Governing Body works closely with the Headteacher to achieve high standards for all the school's children. A Governor's role can be described as being the critical friend of the school. Whilst being strong supporters and advocates of the school and willing conduits of information between the wider community and the school, it is essential that the Governing Body acts impartially in scrutinising the work of the school and bringing a parental, business and community perspective to the educational planning process. Governors monitor and should challenge, ask questions and seek information. A key part of the role is to help with the medium and long-term planning process. The development of a strategic plan is a shared responsibility of the Governors and the school community.

In addition to Parent Governors, who are elected by other parents whose children attend the same school as their own, there are other categories of governor:

- Staff Governors – elected by teaching/non-teaching staff;
- Community Governors – appointed by members of the Governing Body;
- The Headteacher of Hendon School

Apart from the full Governing Body, there are also a number of Committees with delegated authority. The Committees cover areas such as audit, curriculum, finance, general purposes, staffing and student welfare. Governors usually serve on at least one of these Committees in addition to the full Governing Body. Governors are encouraged to maintain strong links with staff and to work with departments. They are encouraged to visit the school.

Being a governor is a responsible, rewarding and sometimes time-consuming job. To help you decide if you would like to be a governor, you may wish to speak to a current governor or to the Headteacher. Louise Varley has served as governor since her children started at Hendon School and would be pleased to speak with you about being a governor. Her email address is varleyl@hendonschool.co.uk