



## **Becoming a Parent Governor: Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the benefits of being a School Governor?**

- The knowledge that you have played a part in improving children's education
- The opportunity to contribute your knowledge and skills to a school
- The privilege of giving something back to society

### **Do I need qualifications to be a School Governor?**

No. Schools need volunteers with a variety of life experiences.

Whilst you do not need qualifications to be a Governor, the following are important:

- A commitment to regular attendance at meetings of the Governance Advisory Board
- A desire to raise the standards of education within the school
- A willingness to share skills and expertise within the context of the Governance Advisory Board

### **I work full-time. Will I still have time to be a School Governor?**

Some of our Governors are in full time work. Governors' meetings rarely take place during the working day as most are arranged for the evenings.

### **What makes a good Governor?**

- You want to make sure Etone College remains a good centre of education
- You care about improving children's education
- You have expertise in business, law, finance, personnel or health

### **What can I offer?**

Enthusiasm and commitment

As a member of the school's community your local knowledge will be valuable - you will have a feel for what is important to people in the area and your professional expertise.

### **How does a Governance Advisory Board work?**

- Works closely with the Headteacher and the Leadership Team
- Plays a fundamental part in the strategic direction of the school
- Gets to know the school
- Meets at least once a term
- Conducts most of its business through meetings

**How much time does it take?**

The amount of time that Governors can give to the role will vary but if you are serious about helping Etone College remain a good school then you do need to:

- Be willing to prepare for meetings - there can be a lot of papers to read
- Attend meetings - the Governance Advisory Board must meet at least once per term
- Participate - if you cannot prepare for, and attend, meetings you will not be able to make an effective contribution to help the school

**Can I expect to receive any help and support?**

Yes. There are courses provided but we ask a serving Governor to help you understand what is going on - a sort of mentor.

**How do I apply to be a Governor?**

You should submit a letter of interest of no more than 2 pages to Miss Molly Thomason by email [mthomason@matrixacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:mthomason@matrixacademytrust.co.uk) or by post to Matrix Academy Trust, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich, West Midlands, WS2 7PS.

Applications will need to be received by 3pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

In the event of more than two parent names being submitted, elections will be held.