

# Are you enthusiastic about education and supporting your community? Do you have some time to commit?



If so, you may be just the person we need!

Asby Endowed School is looking for enthusiastic and committed individuals to join our Governing Body from September 2022. It's a fascinating and rewarding voluntary role which offers a great opportunity to contribute to your local community, and to help give our children the best possible start in life. There is a time commitment of at least six meetings per year, plus occasional visits to the school in between meetings.

Governors come from all walks of life and we encourage diversity within the team. As part of our team, you need to both support and challenge the school. Governors need to ask questions to help the school leaders investigate how it is performing. You don't need to have worked in education or have any specific qualifications. You just need to be able to work effectively as part of a team; think strategically and be keen to make a positive difference.

Register your interest or find out more by contacting Nikki Hipwell, Clerk to the Governors, at [clerk@asby.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@asby.cumbria.sch.uk)



## Would you like to help make a positive contribution to children's education?

Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment. You will also be joining the largest volunteer force in the country: there are over a quarter of a million volunteers governing state funded schools in England. There is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. There is plenty of training available to help you learn about education. Schools need and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing board including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change.

As a governor you will be able to:

- Use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations;
- Develop and utilise your skills in a board-level environment;
- Make a valuable contribution to education and your community;
- Support and challenge the school so that it improves for pupils and staff;
- Bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights in to decision-making in the interests of the school community.

## What do governors do?

The governing board provides strategic leadership and accountability in schools. It has three key functions:

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

Governors set the aims and objectives for the school and set the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives. They monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the headteacher. In action, this means:

- Appointing and performance reviewing the headteacher and senior leaders, including making decisions about pay;
- Managing budgets and deciding how money is spent;
- Engaging with pupils, staff, parents and the school community;
- Sitting on panels and making decisions about things like pupil exclusions and staff disciplinary;
- Addressing a range of education issues within the school including disadvantaged pupils, pupils with special needs, staff workload and teacher recruitment;
- Looking at data and evidence to ask questions and have challenging conversations about the school.