



High Down Schools

GOVERNOR OPPORTUNITIES AT HIGH DOWN SCHOOLS

High Down Schools in Portishead are on the lookout for highly motivated and talented volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds to join our Local Governing Body (LGB). This is an opportunity to support your community and shape the lives of young people. You do not need to have previous experience working in education or being a Governor. However, there are some skill profiles we are seeking, so priority will be given to people with experience of:

- Board/senior level leadership
- Strategy development
- Financial monitoring
- Risk management

As Governors we share a common goal of wanting the best possible education for our pupils. Governors act as a critical friend to the school by providing support and constructive challenge to the Headteacher and staff. High Down Schools Governing Body values openness and transparency and feel that this mindset is an essential ingredient when balancing the challenge and support needed by the school. We also believe that this gives the best environment in which a diversity of views can deliver effective governance.

The Governor role is highly rewarding but requires some commitment to reading meeting papers and attending regular meetings. We currently hold seven meetings each academic year, normally held in the evenings, and between meetings we use working groups to monitor the implementation of the school strategy and key policies. Therefore, the ability to spend three or four half-days at the school, each year, deepens understanding of the school in action and provides a solid frame of reference for strategic decision making.

A wide range of training opportunities are available to ensure that all governors feel equipped with the skills and knowledge to carry out their duties. Although the role is unremunerated, reasonable travel expenses can be paid.

If you would be interested and would like to discuss the role, please contact our Clerk Cathryn (cathryn.butler@highdownschools.org), further information can be found on our school website <https://highdownschools.co.uk/staff-governors/governors/>