

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Board.

Our Governing Board has a membership of 11 with representatives from the staff, local community and parents.

The Governing Board does not get involved in the day to day running of the school; they have a strategic role with responsibility for overseeing leadership and management. It has 3 core functions:

- setting strategic direction
- creating robust accountability
- ensuring best use of financial resources

The full Governing Board meets at least three times per academic year, with specific Committee meetings each term. There is an expectation that governors will also undertake monitoring visits into school to find out more about the school throughout the year. Individual governors do not have any powers, instead the Governing Board works closely with the Headteacher and makes decisions collectively as a team.

Any parent, or carer, of a registered pupil at the school at the time of election is eligible to stand for election as a Parent Governor (subject to certain exceptions, e.g. anyone employed at the school for more than 500 hours per annum is not eligible). Parent Governors are elected by other parents at the school - if there are more applications than spaces available, an election will be arranged so please be aware you may have to produce a personal statement for ballot papers.

Appointment is also subject to eligibility criteria and completion of a Disclosure & Barring Service check.

All governors must abide by our agreed Code of Conduct covering issues such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest, training requirements. We offer both online training modules and face to face sessions in school which are all free, as well as a buddy system so that you have an experienced governor to guide you during meetings.

Prospective candidates are invited to speak with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors prior to submitting an application so they are fully aware of the roles and responsibilities involved – please contact Lesley Buck (01325 300328) to make an appointment.

Woodham Academy is part of the Eden Learning Trust (ELT), a Multi-Academy Trust, comprising of a number of secondary and primary schools in the North East who work together to share best practice. Whilst the ELT is responsible legally for the governance of the school it devolves local decision making to the Governing Body to ensure robust and effective measures are in place. Our chair is a trustee of ELT.