Growing and Learning Together

Governor Candidate Information Pack



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Welcome and introduction to Trumpington Federation

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Governor at The Trumpington Federation, a partnership of Fawcett Primary School and Trumpington Meadows Primary School. We hope this pack gives you a clear sense of who we are, what we stand for, and what you can expect from the role. Information about how to apply for a governor role can be found in the last section.

The Trumpington Federation serves a diverse and changing community in Cambridge. Across our two schools, we work closely with families, local organisations and the local authority to ensure pupils feel safe, valued and inspired to learn. We are committed to providing high-quality, inclusive education that enables every child to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Our Governing Body plays a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the Federation and ensuring that we deliver the very best outcomes for all pupils. At the heart of our work are the values of **ambition, respect, inclusion and collaboration**.

Naomi

Chair of the Governing Body

Becoming a Governor – Our Offer to You

We believe strong governing bodies benefit from people with a wide range of professional skills, lived experience and perspectives.

You don't need previous school governance experience. What matters is your commitment to education, willingness to learn, and ability to contribute strategically.

By joining the Governing Body, you will:

- Play a key role in shaping the future of Trumpington Federation
- Use your professional skills in a meaningful community role
- Develop experience in governance, leadership and strategic oversight
- Be part of a supportive and collaborative team, working in the best interests of children

This is a meaningful, impactful role where your voice genuinely matters. Governors often say this is one of the most rewarding and enriching voluntary roles they undertake.

Feedback from members of our board:

"Being a governor has helped me to grow in strategic thinking, which has really supported my development as I've taken on a more senior role at work"

"Being a governor has enabled me to apply my values more broadly and to feel much more part of our community"

Our Vision & Strategic Priorities

Our governing body works with school leaders to:

1. Ensure **high standards of teaching and learning**
2. Promote **inclusive practice** and strong support for SEND and disadvantaged pupils
3. Maintain a strong culture of **safeguarding and wellbeing**
4. Ensure **public money is well spent** and resources are used effectively
5. Support staff development and leadership capacity
6. Strengthen engagement with parents and the local community

Governor Role Description

General Responsibilities

Governors are strategic leaders who:
• Help set the strategic direction of the Federation
• Hold school leaders to account for educational performance
• Oversee financial performance and ensure value for money
• Ensure the schools operate within statutory frameworks and policies
• Act in the best interests of pupils at all times
• Contribute to a culture of challenge and support

Governors are expected to:
• Attend and contribute to Full Governing Body meetings (twice per term, evenings) •
Attend and contribute to at least one committee (twice per term, normally mornings)
• Engage with training and development sessions
• Carry out monitoring visits linked to school improvement priorities and targets (2 to 3 hours per term)

Governors represent the Federation by:
• Acting as an ambassador for Trumpington Federation
• Supporting positive relationships with parents, partners and the
community • Occasionally attending school events or visits (by arrangement)

Person Specification

Essential

We are looking for someone who:
• Believes in high-quality, inclusive education
• Communicates clearly and works well with others
• Can think strategically and ask constructive questions
• Acts with integrity, discretion and respect for confidentiality
• Is willing to learn about education and governance
• Can commit time to meetings and preparation
• Can challenge supportively and appropriately
• Has an understanding of accountability and public service

Desirable

• Professional experience in one or more of:
– Finance or budgeting
– Law or compliance
– HR or people management
– Data or performance analysis
– Safeguarding or wellbeing
– Leadership or strategy

• Previous board, trustee or committee experience

We particularly welcome applications from those with lived experience that reflects our community.

The Trumpington Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All governors are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Terms of Office

Length of term:
Governors are appointed for a four-year term and may be reappointed.

Remuneration:
This is a voluntary role. Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses may be claimed.

Location:
Meetings are held at Trumpington Federation schools or online.

Time Commitment:

The Full Governing Body meets in the evening twice in every school term. Meetings last for about two hours. Preparation time is needed before each meeting.

In addition, all governors commit to joining one of the two committees: Resources or Teaching and Learning. Each of these committees also meets twice in each school term either in the morning or evening. The precise arrangements are agreed by the members of the committees.

Most governors have an area of special focus (e.g. Early Years or Special Educational Needs) and liaise with relevant school leaders to keep in touch with developments and undertake monitoring visits. This can take two or three hours each term.

Recruitment Process – not applicable for parent governor positions

If you are excited by the opportunity of becoming a Trumpington Federation Governor, we now invite you to contact clerk@trufed.org.uk to arrange an informal meeting with the Co-Chairs so that you can find out more about the role.

Following this meeting, we will send you an application form, including space for a short CV or biography and some questions on your motivation for becoming a governor, and the skills and experience you would bring to the role. You will also be required to provide the details of two referees that we can contact. We would also be grateful if you would complete our anonymous DEI monitoring form to support our equal opportunities.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview with a panel of governors and a Head Teacher. Successful applicants will receive a full induction and ongoing training.

Please refer to FAQs here - Frequently Asked Questions