

2025/26

LOCAL GOVERNANCE AT RISE

Enabling schools to 'flourish and succeed'





Do you have some time to volunteer?

Would you like to help shape the education of the next generation?

If so, you may be interested in becoming a local governor at a Rise school. Governors play a vital role in supporting our schools, guiding strategic decisions, and ensuring every pupil receives the best possible education.





Introduction from the Chair of Directors



Thank you for showing an interest in becoming a local governor in a Rise school. Governors play an important role in helping the Board of Directors ensure that each school is the best it can be in the communities they serve.

As community volunteers your time and commitment is hugely valued by the Board. Within this short document we have tried to outline some of the things we are often asked by potential governors.

Again, thank you for taking the time to read this information and I hope you find it useful.

What knowledge and skills do I need?

Across the trust, local governors bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to their volunteer role. There is not one set of knowledge or experiences that add value per se. What we mostly look for is the right disposition. The desire to build relationships with the school and Rise. The drive to ask pertinent questions. The passion to think about all pupils in the school and the ambition for things to be even better.



What is the time commitment?

There are four 2 hour meetings a year. Two in the autumn and then one in spring and summer. There is an expectation that the uploaded documents are read in advance.

Our training and support is online and can be reviewed at a time that suits you. The minimum we ask is an annual refresher regarding safeguarding and GDPR and a one off engagement with our induction to governance at Rise resources. Other training is available online but optional.

We encourage at least 4 local governors to visit the school at least once a year in their role as an advocate for:

- SEND Pupils
- EYFS
- Culture & Ethos
- Safeguarding

We aim to strike the balance between recognising the role is voluntary, whilst valuing the service that you provide and thus investing in your training and development.





What do we do?

Most of the work of the local committees is done through the four meetings.

You will receive papers, including the Head's report and you will often ask questions. You will also receive all of the review outputs from the Rise team; so you will also get a view of the school's strengths from outside of the school staff.

Finally, you will have updates from any advocate visits to the school. The Board have identified the 19 areas that they ask local governors to focus on and a further 2 for our Church of England schools.

For more information, please visit our website:

<https://rise-mat.com/governance.php>

Alternatively, scan the QR code below:





Areas of Focus



Culture & Ethos

Governors focus on the behaviour and attendance of pupils, asking good questions of school leaders. There is a wider focus on the vision and ethos of the school and how pupils are supported to be well rounded citizens. Governors also consider the diet of extra-curricular experiences available to all pupils.



Christian Distinctiveness (CofE Schools Only)

Governors ensure that the school's Christian vision and values are rooted in the local context and community and lived. They also focus on the distinctive character of worship and religious education.



Community

Governors ensure leaders are using the outcomes of parental surveys well. They also consider school level complaints, with the help of MAT colleagues.



Safeguarding

Governors understand the safeguarding culture that leaders have created and support and challenge them to strengthen or sustain excellence best practice.



School Improvement

Governors understand the quality of education that pupils receive, using MAT reports, Heads' reports and data. They ask leaders questions about the progress the school is making against its plans for improvement.



People

With the required training, governors support Headteacher recruitment and/or wider school staff recruitment. They review the staff survey outcomes and ask leaders what they are doing with said outcomes.

Ready to Apply?

An informal conversation with Stephen Adshead is welcomed, to arrange an appointment please email, recruitment@risemat.co.uk advising of a suitable date and time.

To express an interest in the role please submit your CV and a covering letter detailing your experience to recruitment@risemat.co.uk.

Once we have received your application we will be in touch to arrange an interview.

Thank
you

