

# CHEADLE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WHAT ARE THE ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD?

Governors play an important part in school life and our primary aim is to help bring about school improvement. Although some governors have experience in the educational world, this is not essential. The Governors role is **not** to be involved in the day-to-day management but to work closely with the Head and the senior leadership team while fulfilling the three main governor roles:

1. **Strategic** – setting the school’s values, vision and strategic aims, agreeing plans and policies, making creative use of resources, thinking and working strategically to help raise standards, approving certain documents.
2. **Critical friend** – monitoring and evaluating performance and progress towards the school’s priorities and targets, supporting staff and challenging their expectations.
3. **Accountability** – ensuring that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, to the local community, to those who fund and maintain it, as well as the staff it employs; governors need to probe decisions or ask for further explanations.

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A PARENT GOVERNOR?

Parent Governors hold the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through their children they have a first hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum and see how the school is perceived from the “customers” point of view. Parent Governors should form a relationship with the parents but must maintain a strategic approach to the Governing Board. Being a parent governor can be both interesting and rewarding and working alongside other members of the Governing Board will ensure that the work of the Governing Board fulfils its duties to all children. A Parent Governor can advise parents on routes of action but must not become personally involved in individual concerns. Parent Governors are representative parents NOT a representative of the parents.

<b>Parent Governors should:</b>	<b>Being an impartial representative parent can be difficult at times so a Parent Governor should:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• make themselves known to the parental community</li><li>• try to attend any additional training which is available</li><li>• listen impartially to concerns raised by parents</li><li>• guide parents regarding appropriate lines of actions and procedures</li><li>• present a balanced view of issues, representing different sections of the community</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Never promise to ‘solve a problem’</li><li>• Never press their own child’s case at the expense of others</li><li>• Should not bring individual issues to meetings without following the correct procedure</li><li>• Should stay aware of all parental views and concerns</li><li>• Play an active part in meetings</li></ul>