



Thompson  
Primary School



Co-operative  
Education  
East

# Make a difference – become a Parent Governor

## Why become a Parent Governor?

Governors have an important part to play in helping schools to run effectively. They work as part of a team with the Headteacher and school staff to help provide a happy, safe and thriving learning environment and an excellent education for all the children.

As a Parent Governor, you will be well placed to understand parents' views and have first-hand knowledge of how the school is run. You will have the opportunity to work toward improving the school experience not only for your own child but for children in years to come.

This voluntary role can be challenging yet extremely rewarding and is a great way to build on your personal and professional skills. You will be supported in the role through a programme of training and mentoring allowing you to use your knowledge and experience to the full extent.

## What will you do?

You will work with the Local Governing Committee (LGC) to develop the school's vision and priorities, review educational performance and make strategic decisions.

Parent Governors are representative parents rather than representatives of parents. You will not be expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to Governors meetings or to personally become involved in individual concerns. You will need to be able to present a balanced and impartial view, based on the benefits for all children.

Governor meetings are held six times a year and may be combined with school visits focused on school priorities. You will receive reports from the headteacher and senior leaders and need to be able to question, challenge and support decisions. You will also be expected to visit the school as a governor which can be a quite different experience to visiting as a parent!

The governing body operates a code of conduct which sets an ethos of professionalism and high expectations of governors.

## What are we looking for?

We need enthusiastic and committed parents from a variety of backgrounds. You do not need leadership or education experience; just a desire to give back to the school and its community and a proactive approach to becoming involved as a member of a team.

## Next steps

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact [head@thompson.cee.coop](mailto:head@thompson.cee.coop) or Julie Fletcher, Chair of Trustees, at [jfletcher@cee.coop](mailto:jfletcher@cee.coop) for an informal chat.