

Meet our Governors:

Dr Parr

Dr Parr is our Foundation Governor and Chair of Governors. He visited us to talk about his role as governor in the school and answer our questions. This is what he told us:

1) Why do you want to be a governor?

I was at school, just like you. I enjoyed school and went on to do a degree and taught in a university. School helps us to prepare for a career.

2) How did you become a governor?

Mrs Parr was a teacher and that helped me to become involved. I like helping children to learn and I like helping Mrs Cattle and the staff in school to keep it running well. Governors don't run the school on a day-to-day basis. All schools have different kinds of governors. Our school has four parent governors, elected by the parents; two foundation governors upholding the church foundation (I am a foundation governor); a Local Authority governor (Mr Mellor, is the Local Authority governor); co-opted governors and staff governors – Mrs Cattle and Miss Peacock.

3) How long have you been helping to run the school?

I have been a governor since 2018 and Chair of Governors since 2023. I was a governor in a really big secondary school before that. I was about 30 when I first started being a governor.

4) What do you actually do? What is your role?

Governors sit alongside the staff. We are helpful volunteers but we have statutory responsibilities. We oversee admissions, the budget, we check that the money is spent well, that the building is maintained, that the church school foundation is maintained – we are critical friends.

5) How do you help us to be ‘the little school that makes a big difference?’

Every school is different, a different size, with different people and facilities. Being a small school is a real advantage because we all know each other. We are like a family. It is more personal and we are all known as individuals. Because everyone is known, the governors can really help to make a difference.

6) What makes a good governor?

Someone who is interested in what goes on in the school and what happens to the school – it is not for their benefit. You need to be prepared to look at information. You should not interfere in the day-to-day running of the school.

7) What values do you need to be a governor?

Values like honesty and kindness are important.

8) How often do you come into school?

There are governors’ meetings after school, sometimes in school time, meetings about the budget, the ethos, curriculum and health and safety as well as full governing body meetings. I come to events like the Christmas Fair and

the Harvest Festival too. I would say about four hours a month or more.