



Bunwell  
Primary School



Co-operative  
Education  
East

## Make a difference – become a Parent Governor

Parent Governors play a vital role on the Local Governing Committee (LGC) at Bunwell, enabling you to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school.

### Why become a Parent Governor?

Being a Parent Governor means you are well placed to understand parents' views and how matters being discussed might affect parents. You will bring experience and knowledge from all aspects of your life and an understanding of the school through your children to contribute to the successful running of your child's school.

You will gain a greater understanding of how the school is run and have the opportunity to make a difference. This will have a positive knock-on effect on education, academic outcomes and school life not only for your own child but for children in years to come.

There are plenty of opportunities to learn new skills which will benefit your own personal or professional development.

### What will I do?

Being a Governor is a 'hands off' role. Decisions made by governors influence the whole school, but governors are not responsible for, or involved in, the day-to-day running of the school. Governors set the ethos of the school and drive for continuous improvement, and they also oversee financial performance and ensure money is well spent. Part of the role of a governor is to be a 'critical friend,' supporting the school but also challenging it and holding it accountable.

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.

You will need to commit time to prepare for and attend meetings, which are held once per half term. You will receive and read reports from the headteacher and senior leaders and be able to question, challenge and support decisions.

You will also be expected to visit the school as a governor – this 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.

### Next steps

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