

The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth  
**Achieving Together for a Brighter Future**



**Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Grainger BEd English (Hons)**



**Being a Governor; how does it work?**  
**Information document for parents and other interested parties**

What do Governors do?

Governors have a vital role to play in the life of a school, or Federation in our case. They help set the strategic direction of their school or college and ensure it delivers on its responsibilities. This requires a group of committed people from many walks of life with a mix of skills and experience.

Governance is about overseeing the success of the school. It is about agreeing priorities and monitoring progress towards them. It is not about running or managing the school or college – that is the job of paid professionals. Governance is about providing constructive support and challenge to leaders and managers to enable them to do their job to the best of their ability. Strong governance is becoming all the more essential as schools and colleges become more autonomous.

The Government and Ofsted have high expectations of governing bodies to:

- set the vision and ethos
- establish strategic direction
- promote high standards of educational achievement
- appoint a headteacher or principal and hold them to account for the performance of pupils and staff
- oversee the financial performance of the school or college, making sure money is well spent.

For more information see the website “[Inspiring governors.org](http://Inspiringgovernors.org)”

Each governing body is made up out of different categories of governors. Under the new regulations published in February 2012 the follow categories are available:

- LA Governors are appointed by the Local Authority
- Staff Governors are elected by the Staff
- Parent Governors are elected by the parents
- Foundation Governors are nominated by the local Parish Churches; St James at Yarmouth, St Michaels at Shalfleet, St Switthen’s at Thorley
- Co-opted Governors are appointed by the Governing Body
- Associate Members are appointed by the Governing Body.

The Federation ‘Instrument of Government’ must comply with specific rules around federations and the ‘Instrument’ in which the categories available in our Governing Body are set out, is available on this website.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact the Headteacher Beryl Miller, Chair of Governors Carla Bradshaw, or Clerk to Governors Jane Lewis, for more information.

**SGOSS, Governors for Schools and Colleges** – is a dedicated service that recruits volunteers to serve as governors in schools and colleges. If you complete their online application form an SGOSS Area Manager will contact you to progress your application. SGOSS offers a free bespoke matching service to volunteers and schools.