

Foundation Governance of CofE schools

The Diocese of Exeter has 131 church schools across the county of Devon. A mix of Voluntary controlled, Voluntary aided and Academies of various sizes and a blend of both urban and rural locales.

To find your nearest church school visit the Diocese of Exeter website.

<http://www.exeter.anglican.org/schools/findingchurch-school/>

Click to view the schools website and latest Ofsted and SIAMS reports.



Church of England schools and academies are community schools with a Christian foundation and ethos that have a very strong relationship with the parish church and local community. The role of any governor is challenging yet many find the opportunity of serving their school and local community by sharing skills and experiences very rewarding. Like every other school, being a Governor in a church school is a commitment to the children, staff and parents to make the school and the learning the very best it can be.

The Exeter Diocesan Board of Education (EDBE) is responsible for the appointment of Foundation Governors and, like any other Governor; a Foundation Governor will be responsible for:

- Developing and monitoring school improvement
- Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all members of the school community
- Performance management of the Headteacher and reviewing staff performance management
- Compliance with all legal requirements
- Budget and financial management
- Strategic oversight of the school – its aims, policies and general conduct

Governors need to have:

- An interest in the performance of the school
- A desire to contribute to and represent the community
- An open and enquiring mind, confident to take part in debate and ask challenging questions
- Have a background of or interest in HR, Finance, PR, Business, Legal or Education
- Time to spare – there is commitment involved and will vary depending on the school.
- The ability to look at issues objectively, to listen and make informed judgements
- A commitment to governor training

Governors in Church Schools will also be responsible for:

- Supporting the underlying principles of the trust deed of the school.
- Monitoring RE and collective worship
- Preserve and develop the ethos and Christian distinctiveness of the school

The EDBE strongly advises that before making a decision to volunteer as a governor, arrange to visit the school, meet with the Chair and headteacher and attend a Governors meeting as an observer. This should give a clearer idea of the time commitment, the expectations and general situation of the school.

The EDBE has vacancies in a number of schools across the diocese – please contact us if you are interested.

For more information contact Sarah Owen 01392 294938 or email governance@exeter.anglican.org