
What sort of person is a Governor?

The most important attribute of a Governor, is the willingness to bring the best of who you are to Ysgol Y Foryd. Who you are and what you bring to the Team is invaluable. There are a few general pointers - the three 'C's' - to think through before putting yourself forward when a Governor vacancy arises:

- **Capable.** We are all good at something! Ask yourself 'What abilities do I have that I can bring to the Governing Body?' You may be good at managing finances - whether as a job or home budgeting of finances. Or perhaps you have some Human resource experience and are used to interviewing people for job positions? Maybe you are an 'ideas person' or have experience in a specific area such as Art or Music or Computers? Maybe you're a Grandparent and 'old and wise' and the person in the family that people tend to go to for support and help? Perhaps you are calm in a crisis and able to broker peace in difficult situations? The Governors' role is so varied and the Team need different people with different skills and experiences.



- **Character.** Aim high! Ask yourself whether you share the five Foryd values and uphold the ethos of the School? The Governors' are to lead by example and should be 'upstanding' members of the community. There is often sensitive and confidential information shared at Governors meetings and it is important that you are able to keep secrets secret! Fake news is just as problematic as leaked news! Y Foryd's Headteacher, Staff and parents need to have confidence in their Governing Body and so it is important that the Governors are trustworthy dependable people.
- **Commitment.** You can be the best Artist in the world but if you never paint a picture then you might as well be the worst! Ask yourself if you can put time aside and put effort into the role? A Governors' term of office is 4 years and during that time there will be a couple of evening meetings or training opportunities each term. There is a need to read policy documents prior to meetings and so having some reading time at home is also important. On average, the time commitment is about 1 hour to 1 1/2 hours per week during term time.

If you think that you may have the three 'C's' or you know of someone who might - we would love to hear from you so that we can talk together.

I am interested in talking to someone about the privilege of becoming a School Governor.

Name:

Contact No:

Please hand in to the School Office. Thank-you.

Could you be a School Governor at Ysgol Y Foryd?



Dreaming, believing, succeeding together.

*Dreaming, believing,
succeeding together.*



What is a School Governor?

The Governing Body at Ysgol Y Foryd is made up of about a dozen or so people called Governors. They are a team of volunteers from a wide cross-section of society and include parents, teachers, other school staff, people from the local community and people appointed by the local education authority (LEA), Conwy County Borough Council.

Whilst Governors are from all walks of life, what they have in common is that they share a desire to see the children of Ysgol Y Foryd become confident learners so that they have an excellent foundation on which to build as they grow up.

What do School Governors do?

With the Headteacher the Governors provide a strategic role to the School. This simply means that they are involved in deciding how the School should be run - not the day to day managing of the School, which is the Headteacher's job - but an overview of the direction of the School.

For example, the Governors ensure that there are suitable current written policies in place on things like Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Uniform, Staff Pay, IT, Curriculum, and so on but it is for the Headteacher to decide how the policies are followed in the day to day life of the School.

But I don't know how to teach!

The Governor doesn't have to know how to teach! That is the job of the Headteacher and Staff. The Governors'

role is to ensure that the teaching is effective. This is achieved by being a questioning friend. We ask questions such as, 'Are the children doing well?' 'What evidence is there that the children are progressing in their learning?' If the teaching is not effective we ask, 'Why not?' 'What needs to change?' 'Do you need more resources?' 'How can we help?'

The Governors' role is to ensure that the aims and objectives set jointly by the Headteacher and the Governing Body at the beginning of the year are being followed and that real progress is made towards achieving them. If all is well, great... but if not it is the Governors' role to work through solutions with the Headteacher to ensure the best outcome for the children.

It is such a privilege to be part of 'Team Y Foryd' and it takes people from all walks of life to add value to the Governing Body - we all have different life experiences and this collective experience is what makes working together so effective.

So what do you think? Do you have what it takes to be a Governor at Y Foryd?

