

## Summerhill School Governor Roles and Responsibilities

### Governing Board

The Governing Board is responsible for working with the school to ensure that it delivers a good quality education. Together with the headteacher, who is responsible for day-to-day management, it sets the school's aims and policies.

Key roles of governors:

- To ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent

The school can expect the governing board to:

- respect the professional expertise of the headteacher and staff
- work openly in partnership with the headteacher and staff for the benefit of the school and its pupils
- demonstrate its commitment, collectively and individually
- act and take decisions that are in the best interests of the school and not those of self, individuals or groups
- support the school with parents and in the community
- recognise the need for both governor induction and ongoing training and development

### Individual Governors

- enhance the work of the governing board to enable a strong focus on raising standards, so that every child achieves their potential
- demonstrate their commitment by getting to know the school and becoming involved in school life and activities
- take personal responsibility for their ongoing training and development
- prepare for meetings so they are well informed, having at minimum read all of the papers sent out with the agenda
- attend meetings of the Governing Board and any committees that they are a member of and play an active part
- support the school with parents and in the community
- recognise the corporate status of the governing board and the concept of collective responsibility
- respect confidentiality and the need to act with circumspection.

Note: The role of a parent governor is **not** as a spokesperson for the views of parents. They are the same as any other governor on the board, providing a 'parental viewpoint' i.e. representative parents rather than representatives of parents.