## The Governing Body of Weaver Primary School

Parent Governor Information Sheet

### BACKGROUND

School governors represent the largest volunteer force in the country with approximately 1% of the adult population serving in this capacity at any one time. The governing body of Weaver Primary School has 12 governor positions of which 2 are for parent governors. Parent governors are elected by their fellow parents and are vital to a governing body because they ensure that the other governors are kept in touch with the concerns and issues of most importance to our parents.

# CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution to the school and the education of its children. They will contribute to the effective day-to-day running of the school and have an effective input toward the educational achievements of its pupils.

A governing body's overriding responsibility is to work in partnership with the head teacher to promote continuous improvement in the performance of the school. This involves the establishment of a development plan, the setting of challenging but achievable targets and the interpretation of information to assess progress and determine appropriate action. Typically, a governor's duties will average at around 6 hours of spare time each month. Aligned to its improvement role, the governing

Help Schools Help Children School Governor Recruitment Toolkit body is there to be a 'critical friend' who can provide the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of both the head teacher and the school.

#### TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Cheshire East LEA values the voluntary contribution of its governors and in return aims to provide a high-quality training and support service. Governors are able to access this support in a variety of ways including training courses and a designated helpline. A regular newsletter is sent to all school governors in the Cheshire East area to keep them informed of developments in education policy and current best practices.

### **BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR**

Being a parent governor can be stimulating, enjoyable and rewarding. If you have the enthusiasm and desire to be come closely involved in the running of the school then please consider putting yourself forward for vacancies that arise. Parent Governors are an important component in achieving an effective and well-balanced governing body.

Contact Andrew Cliffe, Chair of Governors at chair@weaver.cheshire.sch.uk or write directly to him at Weaver Primary School, Western Avenue, Nantwich, CW5 7AJ.