

**Department for Education**

**Foundation Governors Qualities & Skills**

All schools have a Governing Board comprising of different types of governors, for example Parent Governors, Staff Governors, etc. In addition to these categories, Governing Boards in Catholic Schools also include Foundation Governors, these Foundation Governors will always form a majority. The main role of a Governing Board is to operate at a strategic level, ensuring that the Catholic vision and character of the school is upheld, holding the Headteacher and leadership team to account and overseeing the financial performance of the school. Governors also set the budget, manage the School's admissions criteria and are involved in the recruitment of senior leadership.

**The Following are the kinds of qualities & skills which are desirable in a Foundation Governor:**

**Qualities**

- Confidence in own ability to do the job, to play a full role
- Humility – willingness to seek further training and improve skills
- Cooperativeness – desire to work as a member of a team
- Openness – to innovation, criticism
- Commitment to see the school as part of the broader community and of the community of schools

**Skills**

- Observation – for example, internal and external perception of school's progress, ethos of the school, state of buildings
- Asking appropriate and searching questions at Governors' meetings
- Taking an active, informed part in meetings
- Interviewing – participate in appointments, listen effectively and evaluate evidence
- Supporting effectively school in the community
- Visiting the school well prepared and with purpose
- Using the appropriate and proper channels of communication

**Some Further Considerations in Relation to Nomination:**

- Parochial commitment
- Employment experience
- Availability and willingness to attend meetings and undertake training and preparatory reading
- Support for the Catholic education system

**The Governing Board Committees will focus on specific areas, such as:**

- Finance
- Personnel/Staffing
- Admissions
- Curriculum
- Buildings

More information along with an expression of interest form can be found on the Diocese website:  
[www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/services/education/governors](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/services/education/governors)

**If you wish to request an application pack or need any further advice,  
please contact [education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or 0161 817 2204**