

WARFIELD CHURCH - NOTICE
RANELAGH (SECONDARY) SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY

Ranelagh (Secondary) School currently has a Foundation Governor vacancy and Warfield Church would like to encourage its members to consider volunteering for the role.

What is a Foundation Governor?

As a Church of England School, supported by the diocese of Oxford, education at Ranelagh is provided within the context of Christian belief and practice. (Where a school has such a religious character, the Foundation Governors are there to preserve and develop it; they are the link between the school's original benefactors and now.) Their specific role is to ensure that the school is effective as a distinctive and inclusive Church of England school, and to see that the school's Church of England basis has a relevant and meaningful role in the daily running of the school, so that the school community is distinctively Christian.

Who can be a Foundation governor?

To fulfil the role of foundation governor, a person should generally be a committed Christian and an active member of a Christian worshipping community. They should certainly be committed to education in a Christian context and be willing to uphold and promote the school's distinctive Christian foundation.

What does it mean for a school to have a Designated Religious Character?

Church schools, like all schools, are working to ensure that they offer excellence across the curriculum, and this provision needs to be inclusive - for all pupils regardless of their background. At the same time they work to be distinctively different as they share and live out the Christian message to all within the community.

Three distinct but interrelated legal instruments safeguard and underpin the school's religious character. These are:

- trust deed
- ethos statement
- school designation

The whole governing body has a responsibility to ensure that these instruments are upheld. (NB: A school can only lose its religious character by closing!)

The distinctive position of a church school is monitored through the Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools (SIAMS), which normally happens every five years. It asks four questions, which summarise the extra distinctive areas a church school is trying to achieve.

- How well does the school meet the needs of all learners through its distinctive Christian character?
- What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?
- How effective is Religious Education? (Only in Voluntary Aided schools)
- How effective are the leadership and management of this church school?

If you are interested in this role or would like to find out more, please contact:

Peter Stapleton pstapleton@ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk

or

Dawn Deyken ddeykin@bonitas.org.uk.