

## Additional Comments Provided By Governors On Their Completed Surveys

Qu6. **Does Core Training Provide all of your Training Needs?**

YES	NO
161	62

Qu7. **What form of training do you prefer?**

Whole Governor Body Training

Distance Learning

On-line Training

Other - please specify...

Individual as required

Focus groups

courses run by LA

conferences

paper based

college based

workshop/practical

content is important

be specific per Gov Body

Web based

courses as currently

core training package for all govs

selecting relevant courses at convenient times

Number
231
39
96
3
7
5
3
2
2
1
1
1
1
3
1
1

Qu11. **Do you feel the economic balance on your governing body reflects the economic balance within the community local to your school?**

YES	NO
213	106

Qu12 **Do you feel the ethnic balance on your governing body reflects the ethnic balance...**

a) amongst pupils at your school

b) within the community local to your school

YES	NO
275	64
264	66

**Qu 6a. If Core Training does not provide all your needs what improvements could we make?**

Training to understand forms and legal responsibilities  
 Talk to the governors of the school to see what they need  
 Be updated at same time as Headteacher with new developments  
 Increase daytime opportunities  
 More central location  
 Training needs to have a more practical application  
 Difficulties for 1 person to attend the training and then feedback to rest of the governing body  
 Further development courses needed  
 Good to learn from experience eg governing body  
 Training cancelled due to low numbers, more info needed on interviewing prospective staff etc  
 Access to courses due to full time working, therefore on line courses with tutor would be good  
 Make all training available online and improve the website  
 Current health issues make it difficult to attend training courses  
 Clearer understanding of role of governor needed  
 Last course was cancelled which was frustrating  
 Training sessions need to be more forward and discussion led rather than powerpoint presentations  
 More convenient times needed  
 More in depth training needed for continuing governors  
 More local in house training would be beneficial  
 More courses focused on secondary education  
 More appropriate training to knowledge level of governors  
 Training courses cancelled too frequently  
 Understanding of key deliverables eg what key actions and levels of input for a governor  
 How to make better use of financial reporting systems  
 More in depth training needed on a range of issues  
 More choice of venue, more in depth training on specific issues  
 Less cancellations and ensure all trainers are fully qualified  
 More courses aimed at secondary school  
 More finance training needed as this is vital to understand school budget  
 More in depth training needed  
 More sessions for secondary schools  
 meetings of governing bodies from similar schools to share ideas  
 Daytime courses preferred  
 More capsular evening courses in accessible venues  
 Provision for subject updates and legislation changes before they happen  
 Less cancellations of training sessions  
 Hold GB training together  
 More use of online references  
 Opportunities for governing bodies to work together  
 More sessions on secondary schools  
 Training sessions at the weekend if possible

More notice regarding training sessions  
catch up' groups for people who have missed training sessions  
More courses during the day  
Formatting of some courses are not appropriate  
More secondary school courses  
More daytime and evening courses  
More daytime and evening courses  
Video downloads/CD's maybe more helpful as when you miss a course it is hard to catch up  
More training aimed at secondary schools

Specific primary school courses not mixed with secondary so can be more focused  
More central locations for non-drivers and daytime courses  
Sending out leaflets for training sessions on time and less cancellations  
more daytime training  
Training on School Development Plan

**Qu 8. What additional training do you need to support you in your role as a Governor?**

Help understanding jargon / and constantly changing political requirements / & changing means of assessment

To be kept up to date with new requirements / Law etc.

To fully understand my role as a parent governor, chair of finance committee & link governor for numeracy.

Procedures and who to contact with regard to issues with Headteacher and staff

Heads & Chairs working together / Work life balance

Clear indications of how to run a years work and info on new responsibilities, eg examples of good practice

Further training eg education budget, law relating to governors

Time management training

Understanding and overview of what is appropriate at the time you become a governor

Experience and knowledge of other parent governors would help

Further guidance on monitoring and evaluation role

Training on special needs if possible

Financial/budget training needed

Timely updates on key government initiatives required

Availability of training is more important than the content at present

Refresher courses to keep informed of updates

Specialised training event courses and new curriculum issues

Better access to LA officers and their work

health and safety training

refresher courses to keep up to date

more support with financial requirements

training specific to ones own school would be beneficial

Governor body training to understand the role of the governor

better links with the community

curriculum issues

Awareness bulletins

Question and answer sessions prove very useful

Short policy updates or key briefings

More financial training

understanding of the school budget

Marketing in how to increase school volunteers

Help in understanding the role of governors in church schools

Developing the role of a new governor and integration into the GB

Special needs and disability equality

practical skills in how to monitor school effectively

Working with children course

Continual updating on curriculum and legislation developments

ongoing refresher training

Roles and responsibilities of personnel chair

Ongoing changes to legislation

More computer based courses because of time constraints

Child protection training courses to get more involved and qualified

Role as curriculum committee chair

Health and safety updates

Opportunities to observe teaching sessions, eg videos at home

More insight into budget flow charts

Updates on government legislation as and when required

Training on bullying, as this has been cancelled

To be kept up to date with educational developments

help in integrating old and new governors

Regular e-mail updates about new responsibilities of governing bodies

understanding financial spreadsheets

new initiatives/change to law

dealing with practical issues and developing problem solving skills

link governor - lesson observation technique and do's and don'ts

**Qu 14. We would be pleased to receive any further information you consider would be pertinent to this review.....**

If Community Govs increase, don't do it at the expense of other categories of governor.

Ensure Governing Body competent to discharge its duties and responsibilities

Use of school building by community outside school hours (eg. Lettings)

Inviting community to give talks in schools and pupils going out to community such as fire station

Responsibilities and time commitment are making it harder to recruit community governors

There is an expectation to undertake training, this prevents people from undertaking the role

Increasing amounts of paperwork and time required to keep up to date is hard to do

A need to get more local people involved, especially in deprived catchment areas

Governor conferences a useful way to network and are more informal and conducive than a classroom environment

More use of the individual governors should be made to fully represent views of the community

A need to share skills between more governing bodies is needed as York becomes a more multicultural society

Possible problems with composition of the governing bodies in York, some objectives could be construed as contradictory and contentious

Impossible for voluntary governance to fully reflect the community as time and money constraints ensure governance only available to a minority

Whole system needs reviewing, voluntary service is not the way to govern children's education

LA governors struggle to attend meetings and do not get fully involved

To promote the role of school governors would be helpful

Governors have an increasing amount of work for which they are rarely appreciated

Need to raise the profile of community governors

A need to increase community involvement and recruitment of governors without children

Less education red tape would increase the efficiency of the governors

Relevant ethnic minority groups would be useful to gain insight into these communities

Excessive workload and responsibilities prevent new people from being recruited

More guidance on ways to work with the community would be helpful

School meetings are very formal, these could be made more informal to increase participation

Skills are more important than ethnicity and possible payments for increasing the number of community governors

A need to increase the number of minority governors

Using local groups such as dance/church to enhance involvement in schools

having difficulty recruiting governors

better promotion of the role of school governors to parents to enhance interest and recruitment

Better use of the internet and postal service to gain more views in decision making rather than having 'physical meetings'

Increase the number of ethnic governors to reflect number of children at school

Maybe a person specification form could be used to recruit governors as there is in the job market

The LA should represent governors with government as we have a large workload and time constraints

More publicity and advertisement for community governors

Childcare should be paid for by the governing body to increase number of parent governors

canvas local area to recruit new governors

More encouragement to school governors to attend regular meetings and training

Useful to work with the governance service to increase number of community governors

Only way to aid recruitment would be to pay the governments centrally (not from school budget)

There is a need for a 'geographic community' rather than a religion based one

Should hold on to parent governors by making them community governors  
provide marketing guidance for local schools and promote school facility usage in the community

Governors should not be allowed to serve more than 2 terms unless approved by other members of governing body

There is a need for full time workers to become governors

Increase the number of parents from lower socio economic groups by introducing them to groups who can help the participate in being a governor

Inbalance of priorities on governing body, so need to increase number of non parents as governors

Need to have a more diverse community involvement

Need to encourage older adults by holding open days at the schools

To much red tape is preventing governors from having their own opinions

proactively approach community groups and ask for volunteers

Governors need to be encouraged to use their talents

More publicity eg York radio regarding community governors

Active recruitment campaigns, targeting existing individuals and groups

Advanced skills courses for LA governors would improve personnel knowledge

Governing body is to large, could lead to problems with disputes over influential posts

role is prohibitive due to large amounts of paperwork

More support needed for low educational achieved parents as may feel intimidated to apply, childcare expenses also another deterrent

Diversity of governing bodies is not applicable to York

Our faith school already reflects our local area and immigrant population

Community governors would like to see local business involvement

To much red tape is stopping parents becoming governors

Must not forget that parent governors are usually representative of the community

Do away with maximum numbers of governors and encourage schools to have more associate governors

Increasing representation from working class parents

run articles in local press about what governors do

amount of written material sent to governors could be off putting

When resources in schools are limited it's a concerning to see them being diverted

I consider some of these questions are not ethical

I do not answer questions on ethnicity