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*'It was great to join the King's governor network as a new secondary school governor. It has really helped me to understand and effectively contribute towards improving my school's performance for pupil premium children.'*

**Sarah Guerra**, Director of Diversity & Inclusion at King's College London and Governor at Franciscan Primary School

## Support from King's College London

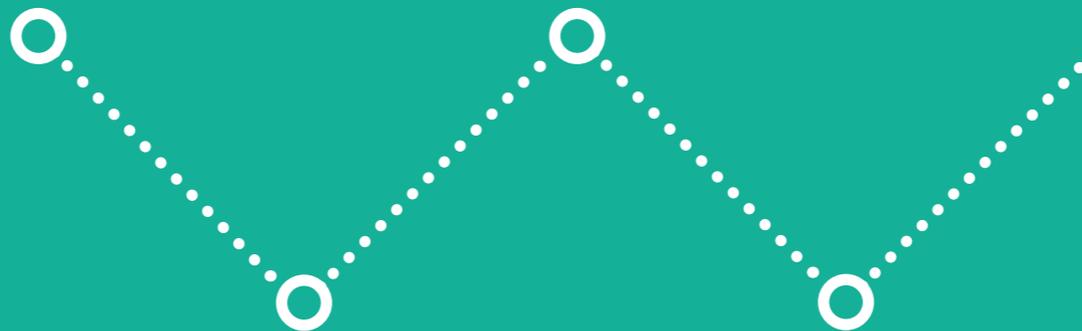
The King's College London School Governor Network is an exciting initiative which forms part of the university's social mobility agenda. It seeks to enhance leadership and the strategic development of schools across the UK by placing King's staff into school governance positions and providing them with the support they need to excel in their role.

Through innovative training events, access to online resources and opportunities to share good practice, the programme seeks to enhance the skills of each member to make a positive impact at their school.

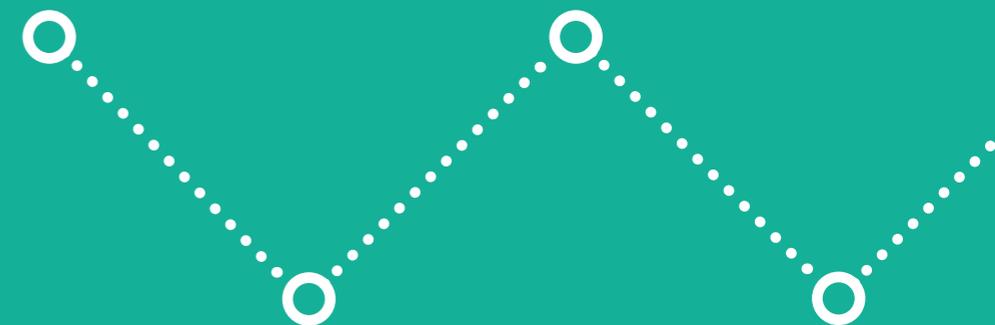
Members are empowered to take leadership in the strategic direction of the School Governor Network to ensure our governor community can contribute to this agenda in a meaningful, relevant and democratic manner.

## Who can join the School Governor Network?

The School Governor Network is open to all staff at King's College London, whether they have school governor positions, are academy trustees or have an interest in school governance. No prior experience of school governance is needed.



# School Governor Network



## Contact

For more information please contact King's College London Widening Participation Department:

Tel: **020 7848 3899**

Email: [outreach@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@kcl.ac.uk)



## The King's College London School Governor Network

### What is a school governor?

School governors and academy trustees play a vital role in shaping the education outcomes of young learners across the UK. As part of one of the largest volunteering forces in the country, governors are responsible for developing the strategy, vision and ethos of a school. Key responsibilities for a governing body include:

- **Providing strategic leadership and accountability in schools**
- **Appointing, supporting and challenging the decisions of the head teacher**
- **Ensuring a school is in good financial health.**

School governors typically commit to a four-year term, where they spend around six hours a month attending meetings, conducting reading or visiting the school.

## How to get involved in school governance

### Become a school governor

In partnership with Governors for Schools, King's College London is committed to supporting its staff members to become school governors and academy trustees. Governors for Schools is a free, independent governor recruitment service that seeks to ensure King's staff governors can find the right school for them.

To become a school governor, King's staff can register with Governors for Schools via their website: [www.governorsforschools.org.uk](http://www.governorsforschools.org.uk)

### Join the King's College London School Governor Network

All staff members at King's College London are eligible to join the School Governor Network. They can do so by completing the short form on our webpages. To access our webpages search 'King's School Governor Network'.

### King's service policy for flexible working

The majority of governor responsibilities take place outside work hours. However, King's College London allow for school governors to take time off within their contractual hours at the discretion of their line manager when necessary as part of the university's commitment to service.

*'Having had the opportunity to access innovative training sessions and online resources as a member of the School Governor Network, I have been able to develop my skills and expertise for my governor role. I am now in a position where I can ensure that the social mobility agenda is at forefront of our governor meetings. Due to the support and networks available as part of the programme, I feel empowered to make a real difference to the lives of young people at Park View School'*

**Effy Alexandrou**, Widening Participation Officer at King's College London & Co-opted governor at Park View School



## Making a difference

### The social mobility agenda

Social mobility is one of the key ingredients of a fair, equal and progressive society. Education is a hugely influential factor in shaping the way social mobility occurs in a society. School governors and academy trustees can have a significant influence on how schools interpret, tackle and progress social mobility for their students.

The Widening Participation Department at King's College London seeks to contribute to the social mobility agenda by opening up university to under-represented groups. We are committed to finding the brightest minds regardless of background and supporting them in accessing higher education.

The School Governor Network forms an important part of our strategy, where we seek to train committed

governors at King's to become advocates of widening participation within their schools. We empower our governors to make a difference.

### Professional development

Joining the School Governor Network is a fantastic opportunity to gain new skills and experiences. A governor may encounter new challenges around the development of an institutional strategy, finance, human resources, business development or pupil welfare. In addition, King's staff have the opportunity to share their skills and experiences to solve challenges around strategy, finance and evaluation at a school.

The skills developed as a school governor can prove invaluable to enhance career development or progression.