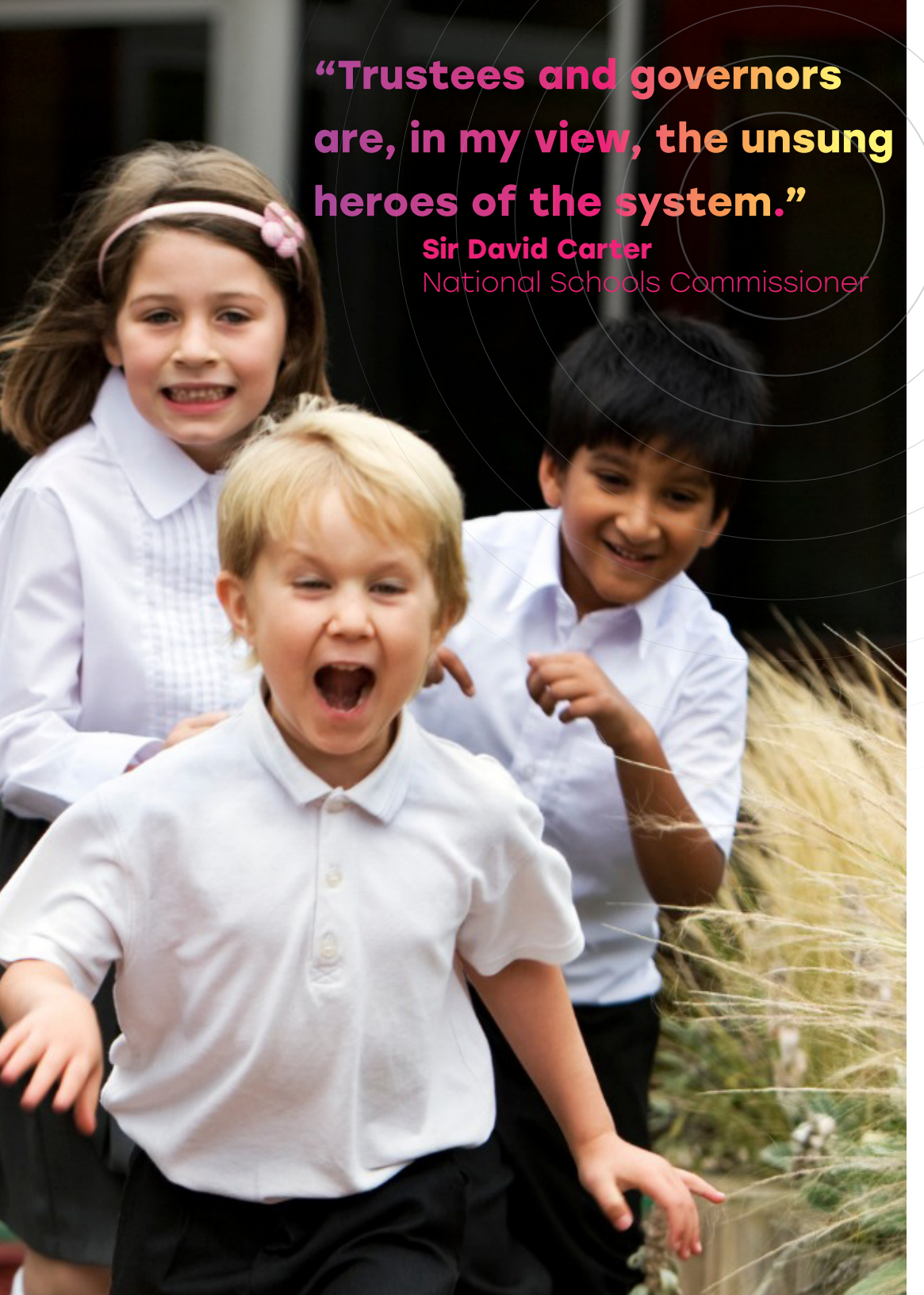




**Great governors come
from your university.**



A photograph of three young school children running outdoors. In the foreground, a blonde boy is running towards the camera with a wide, joyful expression, his mouth open. Behind him, a girl with brown hair and a pink headband is also running, smiling. To the right, another boy with dark hair is running, looking towards the camera with a smile. They are all wearing white school uniforms. The background is slightly blurred, showing some greenery and a building.

**“Trustees and governors
are, in my view, the unsung
heroes of the system.”**

Sir David Carter

National Schools Commissioner

About Governors for Schools

Governors for Schools exists to improve educational standards so that children and young people have the chance to realise their full potential.

We believe the key to improving school performance is effective governance. By finding, nurturing and supporting a committed network of governors we help to drive systematic change in how schools operate. Since 1999, we have been connecting schools across England with skilled and committed volunteers, supported by our business and university partnerships.

“Governors for Schools is a fantastic partner and has played an important role in supporting the King’s College London School Governor Network by providing a professional, streamlined service to help prospective applicants become school governors. They contribute to the development of our School Governor Network by delivering training sessions at the university... we recommend Governors for Schools to any organisation or individual who wish to enter or facilitate entry to school governance.”

Tom Weaver

Widening Participation Officer
King’s College London

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

The opportunity

We connect schools with skilled and committed volunteers to fill governor vacancies on their board. Our service ensures they recruit effective governors with a high level of expertise, able to drive school improvement. Volunteers bring a wide range of talents and abilities from their professional lives, a huge benefit to the schools they are placed in.

Universities have an enormously positive effect on the social and economic well-being of their local communities. Governors for Schools works with your university to enhance this impact by helping you set up an effective school governor volunteer scheme. The opportunity is open to all staff (whether teaching, research or non-academic) and alumni, and is a fantastic addition to your current social responsibility and/or widening participation and outreach programmes.

By working with us and encouraging governor volunteering in your institute, you can create lasting impact, driving systematic change across England's schools. In the last 5 years we have placed over 10,000 governors across 6500 schools and worked with over 50 businesses and 20 university partners.

Schools



**Skilled and
committed
volunteers**

**Effective
school
governance**

**Improved
school
performance**

**Children
reach their
full potential**

**Skilled
workforce**

**Happy
productive
adult life**

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

Benefits for your university

- Broaden your team's experience in an effective and low-cost way, for example strategic, management and influencing skills.
- Invest in young people today so that they are better prepared for university and the working world in the future.



**Skilled
workforce for
the future**



**Staff
development**



**Invest in your
community**

Benefits for volunteers

- Gain experience on a board which will be useful throughout their career.
- Develop key transferrable skills including strategy, budget and financial management, recruitment and performance management in organisations with budget of £1-10m and staff teams of 15-150 people.
- Work to improve educational standards in schools leading to better outcomes for children and their local communities.



**Board
experience**



New skills



**Improve educational
standards**

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

Launching your school governor initiative:

1

Establish your plan for the year

- ➔ Discuss your plans with Governors for Schools.
- ➔ Get the University's senior leadership on board - this will help establish the programme's authority.
- ➔ Give credit to staff already volunteering.

2

Officially launch a campaign

- ➔ Hold a face-to-face event for staff with Governors for Schools.
- ➔ Give it a permanent home on your staff intranet, providing staff with easy access to information and a named contact.

3

Ensure governor volunteering continues long-term

- ➔ Governors for Schools staff come in for regular recruitment events.
- ➔ Consider the HR policy needed to enable staff to attend governor meetings.
- ➔ Promote the role through the university's other networks such as your alumni.

4

Record the progress of your programme

- ➔ Your Governors for Schools account manager will provide regular reports on progress.

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

Impact:
University of Manchester's
School Governor Initiative



The University of Manchester

The award-winning University of Manchester School Governor Initiative (UMSGI) has been a huge success. **Over 200 University staff** are now in school governor positions, helping drive school improvement and creating better outcomes for children across Greater Manchester and the surrounding area.

The University's support of school governance through the creation of the UMSGI has further embedded the institution as a vital part of the wider communities it serves. By enabling staff to become governors, their skills have been put to use in the schools that need them most.

Through regular network meetings and an annual Conference, the University supports the professional development of staff in their governor roles. There are also clear benefits for the University, as staff develop skills through their governor roles which they bring back into the work place.

The University has worked with Governors for Schools since 2011 and has found their free service invaluable.

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities



Hana Riazuddin - Diversity & Inclusion Officer,
King's College London

Governor at Telferscot Primary School, Lambeth

I decided to become a governor because I thought it was a fantastic opportunity to give back as well as get more professional experience in local governance. A few of my colleagues at King's had recommended the service and because I didn't have to look for vacancies or apply to schools individually, it made the whole process much easier.

I was matched with a fantastic primary school in Lambeth, one that really reflected my ethos and passion for education. I've been a governor for 2 months now and it's really rewarding. I've asked friends and colleagues to sign up too!

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities



UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

Rachel Lad - Widening Participation Co-ordinator,
University of Winchester

**Governor at Chatford Church of England Primary
School, Hampshire**

I have worked in the higher education sector for nearly 10 years and recently worked on a primary school project introducing the concept of university and looking at dream careers. I really enjoyed this and thought it would be nice to do something else. I also have a two year old son so thought it would be useful to learn more about the education system before he goes to school.

There was a call-out for volunteers on the university staff portal and an invitation to attend an introductory session led by Governors for Schools. I made an application immediately after and was quickly matched with a school. I have been impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment of the governing body, Head Teacher and school staff and their continual focus to provide excellent outcomes for their children. I am looking forward to becoming more involved and better understanding where my skills can best support the school.

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

We work with many universities, including:



The University of Manchester



**Imperial College
London**



Next steps



Speak to a member of our team

If you have further questions or would like to find out more contact a member of our team on

020 7354 9805



Visit our website

To read case studies and testimonials, watch videos and find out more about governance, visit our website

www.governorsforschools.org.uk

Find out more:

governorsforschools.org.uk/partners/universities

In the last 5 years...

Placed over
10,000
governors



Worked with over
50
key businesses



21%
of governors placed are from
BAME backgrounds

68%
of governors placed
were under 45 years old

... and over

20
universities

49%
of governors
placed are **female**



Effective Governors, Excellent Schools

governorsforschools.org.uk

T: 020 7354 9805



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FOR SCHOOLS**



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