

## Vacancies on your governing body?

The *School Governors' One-Stop Shop* is here to help your school for free

We all know it can be difficult to keep your governing body full. **Tom Philpott**, writes about a new, no-cost way to find volunteers.

People can all too easily be put off by the misconceptions about school governors. They assume you have to be a parent, require special qualifications or need a huge amount of free time. The School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SGOSS) is an independent charity, partially funded by the Department for Education. SGOSS can work to dispel some of these myths and recruit more talented volunteers to serve on governing bodies. Formed in 1999, SGOSS has so far helped to place over 10,000 volunteers onto school governing bodies.

If your school has vacancies on the governing body, the School Governors' One-Stop Shop may already have someone on file who can meet your needs. If not we can enact marketing activity to raise awareness on your behalf.

*“Over the last couple of years I have had to contact One-Stop Shop on a number of occasions due to governor vacancies which the Local Authority had been unable to help with.”* says Jane Wallington, Head Teacher of Mabel Pritchard Special School in Oxford. *“One-Stop Shop have managed to match my needs (very special indeed if I say so myself) to their list. Staff have always been helpful, courteous and understanding.*

*Over the last couple of years I have recruited between 5 and 6 governors. They have come from all walks of life and now contribute to the smooth running of the school. I cannot thank One-Stop Shop enough for providing this valuable service. A Fairy Godmother after all!”*

**Jane Wallington, Head Teacher, Mabel Prichard Community Special School, Oxford**

Working with the School Governors' One-Stop Shop to fill your vacancies is quick, easy and free. You can register your vacancy online at [www.sgoss.org.uk/schools](http://www.sgoss.org.uk/schools) or call **020 7354 9805**.