



**Gloucestershire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

## **Parents**

### **Volunteers Needed To Become a School Admission Appeal Panel Member**

Are you interested in education and want to get involved?

Do you have excellent listening skills, have the ability to put people at ease and make balanced decisions?

Would you like to become involved in an important, impartial service provided to parents and schools?

If you have answered yes to any of the above why not apply to become a Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Member?

### **What's it all about?**

Being a Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Member can be a rewarding experience for those who wish to contribute to their community and have time to commit during the day.

If a parent is refused a place at their preferred school they can appeal to an independent School Admission Appeal Panel. This Panel will consider the parent's case, the reasons why the admission authority refused their child a place and will then decide whether to allow or refuse the parent's appeal.

**Contact Democratic Services at Gloucestershire County Council for more information/ to request an application form.**

**[democratic.services@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

**Tel: 01452 324205**

# **Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Member - FAQs**

## **What will I be doing?**

You will be sitting on independent School Admission Appeal Panels.

You will be ensuring that parents feel they have had a fair and independent hearing, have been given every opportunity to put their case forward, and have been taken seriously.

## **How much time do I need to give?**

This can vary depending on the level of commitment you wish to give. While appeals are held throughout the year, the peak months are between May and July. The appeals are arranged so that they are heard for half a day or a full day depending on the amount of appeals received.

## **Where will the hearings be held?**

Hearings are usually held at Shire Hall, Gloucestershire County Council. However, currently, temporary regulations allow for school admission appeals to be heard virtually until the end of September 2022.

## **Can anyone be a panel member?**

Yes, unless you are a Gloucestershire County Councillor or an employee of the Gloucestershire County Council.

## **Do panel members receive training?**

Yes, all panel members are trained before sitting on a panel and this is refreshed at least every two years. The next training session will be taking place on 31 March 2022.

## **Do panel members get paid?**

Panel members provide a very important volunteer service which is unpaid. However panel members are entitled to expenses, such as travel when attending panel hearings and training.