



# Governor Profile

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## Robert Cooke - Chair of Governors

### Term of office

September 2019 — September 2023

### Governance experience

I joined the school as a governor in 2010 and shortly afterwards became Chair. Served with three heads at East Stour

### Hobbies and Interests

I enjoy the countryside, cycling, walking, photography, gliding, my garden, which constantly demands my attention and DIY to an old house.

### Why did you become a governor?

Initially an IT trainer of early PC products and providing appropriate products to the companies I trained. Provided programming services for companies setting up small databases using early PC packages and small networks.

I moved into Insurance briefly, but didn't enjoy it and then back into IT where I ran a sales operation for a company specialising in postcoding software and fraud prevention with software solutions. That company was lucky enough to grow considerably and I enjoyed 12 years there.

Whilst working there I became a governor at Clapham Manor Primary School in Clapham. A bit of an eye opener in terms of how dedicated and hard working the staff were and was delighted to find the same when I joined East Stour a few years later. I have seen the school grow from strength to strength and am delighted with how the school is doing and is perceived amongst the community. More recently I became a governor at Ashford Oaks as well and I believe this benefits both schools as I pick up good ideas from both that can be transferred.