

How will being a student governor help me in the future



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The benefits of taking a role as a student governor are numerous. Here's a few to get you thinking!

1. Boosts Your CV and Employability

- **Unique Board-Level Experience:** You gain experience in non-executive leadership early in your career, which is highly regarded by employers and makes your CV stand out.
- **Transferable Skills:** The role helps you develop a range of skills, including strategic thinking, financial acumen (budget oversight), data analysis, HR, and risk management.
- **Professionalism:** You learn how formal meetings operate, how to read complex board papers, and how to operate within a formal code of conduct.

2. Develops Leadership and Professional Competencies

- **Strategic Decision-Making:** You work with senior leaders to set the school or college's vision, strategy, and long-term goals, shifting from a student perspective to a strategic, big-picture mindset.
- **Constructive Challenge:** You learn to hold senior leaders to account, ask critical questions, and challenge ideas constructively.
- **Communication and Negotiation:** You will improve your public speaking, negotiation, and influencing skills by presenting to a board and working in a team towards common goals.

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3. Builds a Professional Network

- Networking with Professionals: You will meet and work with professionals from diverse backgrounds—including potential employers, lawyers, and business leaders—which can lead to mentorship, references, and career opportunities.
- Understanding Stakeholder Needs: You engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including parents, staff, and local authorities, enhancing your ability to understand and work with different groups.



4. Direct Influence on Career Choices

- Understanding Governance: You gain direct insight into how educational organizations, and large public sector bodies generally, are run.
- Developing Confidence: Serving on a board builds self-assurance, helping you to lead with confidence in your future career.
- Career Direction: Many former governors report that the role helped them define their career path or gain skills necessary to enter sectors like HR, law, or management.

In summary, the role is considered a "hidden secret" for professional development, allowing you to build skills in leadership and governance that are rare for someone early in their career.

