



"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Parent Governor Vacancy

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have two vacancies on the Board of Governors for Parent Governors and invite our parent community to consider whether you are able to support your child's school in this important manner.

Parent Governors can play an important part in the overall direction of the school.

All parents, guardians and carers of pupils attending the school are eligible to stand. If there are more nominations than places available, an election will be held. In addition to parent governors, the governing body includes:

Foundation Governors (appointed by the Diocese of Westminster), a Local Authority Governor (nominated by the Council), a Staff Governor (elected by the other staff at the school), a Headteacher Governor, Co-opted Governors (appointed by other governors).

If you are interested in being a parent governor:

- **Please complete the nomination form overleaf, get it countersigned by a proposer and return it to the School Office no later than 31st October 2020 (emailing relevant details is acceptable rather than a paper form).**
- If an election is necessary, candidates will be asked to provide a brief statement about themselves. The statement must not exceed 50 words and will need to be at the school by no later than 6th November 2020.
- Ballot papers, including the candidate's statements, will be distributed from 9th November 2020
- Parents may send ballot papers in with their child, Post Office mail or return ballot papers personally to the school to be in the ballot box by no later than 18th November 2020
- The votes will be counted on 19th November and the results will be posted in the school newsletter at the end of the week.

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor, there will be the opportunity to speak meet with the Headteacher - via phone or Zoom meeting. Please call the office to make an appointment. I will be happy to discuss further and answer any questions you may have regarding expectations, time commitment, etc.



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The Children and Young People's Service

Election of Parent Governor(s)

.....School

NOMINATION FORM

Name of Candidate..... Male Female

Address.....

.....

.....PostCode.....

Telephone (Day)..... (Eve).....

Name(s) and date(s) of birth of child(ren) attending the school:

.....DOB.....

.....DOB.....

.....DOB.....

Signature of Nominee.....

Name of Proposer.....

Name of Proposer's child attending the school

Signed.....Date.....

The School Governing Body

Governing bodies are an integral part of school leadership, setting the ethos of the school, driving continuous improvement, supporting, challenging and holding to account the headteacher and other members of the school leadership team by negotiating stretching targets for improvements in standards and monitoring progress towards them.

Your role as a governor is strategic and will continue to evolve to meet the needs of children in the 21st Century. Increasingly, schools will need to work in partnership and collaborate and the focus of our governing bodies will be in delivering outcomes for children in the wider community.

Governing Body Responsibilities

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the **3 core strategic functions** are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Role of a Parent Governor

You should meet the relevant statutory eligibility criteria for school governors as set out in the Regulations and agree to DBS checks as required. You will have:

- * an interest in **all** the children's futures
- * a desire to make a difference
- * a willingness to accept responsibility
- * an ability to work in a team, ask questions, listen and learn

As a parent governor you hold the unique position of having a parental viewpoint. Through the children you will have first hand experience of the curriculum and how the school is perceived from the consumers' point of view. You will be able to bring this perspective to the strategic management of the school.

A parent governor is a representative and not a delegate of parents. As a parent governor you do not have to vote in a particular way because you have been pressed to do so by parents.

Objectivity, however, is essential. You are not there to promote the interests of your own children but all children. Parent governors are elected by other parents and it is important to establish a rapport with the parental body that elected you, whilst continuing to maintain a strategic approach to school governance.

You are disqualified from being elected or appointed as a parent governor if you are an elected member of the local authority or are paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any twelve consecutive months.

As an effective parent governor you:

- help to decide the priorities for improving the school
- make yourself available to parents and listen to other parents' opinions and take account of them as you contribute to governors' decisions
- work in partnership with the Headteacher, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children
- prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand
- take responsibility for your own learning and development as a governor including attending training
- attend full governing body and relevant committee meetings promptly, regularly
- read briefings and newsletters for governors
- be loyal to the decisions made by the governing body
- respect the confidentiality of governing body affairs
- declare an interest and withdraw from any meeting where you, a partner or close relative or associate stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial
- have regard to the broader responsibilities as a governor of a public institution in regard to promoting accountability for the actions and performance of the governing body
- never press your own child's case at the expense of others