



20 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR

I am writing to update you that there is a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the school's governing body. Rob Doughty, a parent governor, has stepped down after nearly four years of service. The Board would like to express their thanks and appreciation of the time and expertise Rob committed to the role.

You will be aware that governors play a key strategic role in the development of schools. The Board acts as a critical friend to the school, reviewing policies, monitoring best practice and value for money to ensure the curriculum is delivered in the best interests of the students. Governors also support the school in practical ways by offering advice through their own experiences or professions.

There is a full Board meeting once each half term throughout the year. Additionally, the Board has two committees:

- i) Finances, Premises and Personnel
- ii) Curriculum, Teaching and Care

Each committee meets at least once each half term to consider in detail the matters for which it is responsible. Every governor serves on the Full Board and on one committee. Governors also take individual responsibility for policies and for areas of the school. Policies are reviewed regularly by senior staff and governors working together on these revisions.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete and return the form below to the school office by **3 pm on Monday 7 October 2019**. Hard copies of this form are available from the school office.

You will need to ask another parent of a student at the school to sign the form.

Please be aware that regulations require everyone elected or appointed to a governing body to undergo a pre-appointment check which will include a criminal background check. This is to ensure the safety of the students. If you are elected and you subsequently decline to undergo such a check, you will disqualify yourself.

Please give brief details about yourself (**not more than 80 words**) on the form. If an election is needed these details will be copied and sent to all parents with the ballot papers. Please note that the 80 word limit will be strictly enforced and result in additional wording being deleted.

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Head Teacher: James Shapland BSc, MSc

If the number of nominations is the same as or less than the number of vacancies, then the parent nominated will be deemed elected unopposed. If there are not enough nominations, the governing body has the duty to appoint parent governors to fill the remaining vacancy/ies.

The governing body has determined that the term of office for a parent governor is 4 years. If you are elected you may serve the full term of office even if your child leaves the school before your term of office finishes.

If an election is necessary we will circulate a ballot paper following the nomination process.

Only parents of children registered at the school are entitled to stand or vote in the election. A parent who is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in a school year or is an elected member of the LA may not stand for election.

Each parent will have one vote per vacancy, regardless of how many children they have at the school. The ballot will be secret and you will be notified of the result as soon as possible afterwards.

In most cases it will be obvious whether you are a parent. For the purpose of the election of a parent governor, a parent is:

Parents (including carers) of registered students at the school

"Parent" is defined for the purposes of the Constitution Regulations as including "any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18". It includes a person who the child lives with or who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. The reference in the definition must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.'

If you have any questions about the role or whether you are eligible to stand or vote in the election, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Julie Laws
Chair of Governors



James Shapland
Headteacher



ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR AT ASHLYNS SCHOOL
NOMINATION FORM

Your name
(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr)

Address
.....
.....

I have a child at the school and hereby nominate myself for election as a governor. I understand that if elected I will have to undergo a pre-appointment check. Biographical details **(80 words maximum)** for circulation with the voting paper are given below.

Signature

Seconded* by:
(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr)

Address
.....
.....

Signature

*The seconder must be a parent of a pupil at the school.

Biographical details (80 words maximum)

Your completed nomination form must be returned to the school office, marked "Parent Governor Nomination Form" by **3 pm on Monday 7 October 2019**