



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love

6/2/23

Parent Governor Vacancy

Dear Parents/Carers

Our parent governor, Mrs Rachel Simpson-Smith has stepped away from her role after four very dedicated years with our team. We are so grateful for the effort, expertise and enthusiasm she brought to all aspects of the role.

This leaves us with a parent governor vacancy which we would like to fill as soon as possible. Parochial has always aimed for a partnership with parents which undoubtedly brings great benefits to the children. One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor.

The governing body's main tasks are:

- to ensure that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- to hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- to oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the team and play a vital role in ensuring the governing body is aware of the views of parents and the local community. We feel sure that there are parents prepared to take on this important role and give their time and commitment to helping us to continue to improve the school's performance.

Training and support will be available to help you develop into the role. This will include in-house mentoring and support, as well as access to external governor training from Gateshead Council.

Our governing body expects governors to:

- attend three termly meetings of the full governing body
- be a member of a committee and attend three termly committee meetings
- visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least once a year
- complete and return occasional role related documentation
- commit to attend training courses, and undertake additional independent research as required to ensure you are able to function efficiently as a governor

If you feel you have the time and dedication to help in this capacity, and feel you would enjoy being a part of our governing board team, please complete the attached nomination form which will need to be returned to the school by the closing date on Friday 17th February. The form can also be found on our website under both Governance and Letters.

Please note that if successfully elected, the School Governance (Constitution and Federations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 states that "Where a governor is elected or appointed on or after 1st April 2016 and does not hold an enhanced criminal record certificate, the governing body must apply for such a certificate in respect of that governor within 21 days after his or her appointment or election". Failure to apply for a DBS check within 21 days will result in disqualification and removal from the governing body.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, we will hold a ballot which will close on Tuesday 8th March and you will be sent a voting paper in due course.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Walton



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love

Nomination Form for Parent Governors

I would like to nominate myself to be a parent governor.

Name: Mrs/Ms/Miss/Mr/Other.....	
Address:	Home tel. No:
	Work tel. No:
Email:	
I am the parent/guardian of (please enter below the names of your children who currently attend the school).	
Please use this space for a brief personal statement to support your nomination, setting out clearly the skills you feel you can contribute to effective governance and the success of the school. This statement (but not the whole form) will be circulated to parents if there is to be a ballot. This nomination form is available on our website if you would prefer to complete it electronically.	
Please tick all boxes before signing:	
I confirm that I have read the Qualifications and Disqualifications (regulation 17 and Schedule 4 of the Constitution Regulations 2012) overleaf and declare that I am not disqualified from serving as a school governor.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that if successfully elected, I must co-operate with the application for a DBS check by the school, within 21 days of my election.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am aware that if successfully elected my postal and e-mail addresses and contact numbers will be sent to and stored confidentially on a database by Governor Support at Gateshead Council.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signed _____ Date _____	



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love

Appendix A

GOVERNORS QUALIFICATIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

General grounds

- Registered pupils cannot be governors.
- A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of election or appointment.
- A person cannot hold more than one governor post at the same school at the same time.

Grounds that apply to particular categories of governor

- A person is disqualified from being a parent governor if they are an elected member of the LA or paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours (i.e. for more than one-third of the hours of a full-time equivalent) in any consecutive twelve month period (at the time of election or appointment).
- A person is disqualified from being a local authority governor if they are eligible to be a staff governor at the school.

Grounds that arise because of particular failings or actions on the part of the governor

- A person is disqualified from being a governor of a particular school if they have failed to attend the meetings of the governing body of that school for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting they failed to attend, without the consent of the governing body. This does not apply to the headteacher or to foundation governors appointed by virtue of their office.
- A foundation, local authority, co-opted or partnership governor at the school who is disqualified for failing to attend meetings is only disqualified from being a governor of any category at the school during the twelve month period starting on the date on which they were disqualified.

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office if that person:

- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order, debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
- is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body
- is included in the list of teachers or workers considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people
- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children
- is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
- has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
- has received a prison sentence of two years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
- has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
- has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor
- refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Anyone proposed or serving as a governor who is disqualified for one of these reasons must notify the clerk to the governing body.