



29th February 2024

Parent Governor Election

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

We have a vacancy for a parent governor which we need to fill as soon as possible. Parent governors are elected by and from the parents of children currently attending either Blakeney, Pillowell or Walmore Hill. They serve a four-year term of office and bring a very important and valued perspective to the work of the governing board.

School governance plays a crucial role in ensuring the effective operation and development of educational institutions. The Governing Body's principal responsibilities include strategic planning, financial oversight and accountability. Within this framework, parent governors serve as essential representatives, offering unique perspectives and insights into the needs and aspirations of pupils and families. They collaborate with other governors and school leaders to make decisions that positively impact the school community. Through active participation in meetings, committees and school events, parent governors contribute to fostering a supportive and enriching learning environment.

As a Parent Governor, you will have the opportunity to:

- Represent the interests of parents and families in strategic decision-making processes.
- Collaborate with fellow governors and school leadership to drive positive change and improvement initiatives.
- Provide valuable insights and perspectives on matters affecting pupils, families and the school community.
- Participate in meetings, committees and events to actively contribute to the governance and development of our school.

We are seeking enthusiastic individuals who are committed to promoting the best interests of our pupils and fostering a supportive learning environment. No prior governance experience is necessary, as full training and support will be provided.

You might like to look at the information for prospective governors on the Gloucestershire County Council website <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/become-a-school-governor/>. Further information on the role can also be obtained through the school offices or clerk to the governing board.

The governing board has a vital role to play in making sure every child receives the best possible education. This is achieved by ensuring that governors have the necessary skills and commitment to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. The particular skills that governing boards need, will vary and will include personal qualities and capabilities, such as the capacity and willingness to learn and work as part of a team. It is expected that governors will make use of the various training opportunities available to them and play a full part in the work of the governing board.

If you are interested in becoming a parent governor, please complete the attached nomination form and return to the school office or Jenny Purshouse (clerk to the governing board) at federation.clerk@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk. Jenny can answer any questions you have and provide electronic versions of the nomination form. Self-nomination is acceptable and forms must be submitted by 4pm on Friday, 8th March 2024.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, a ballot will be held and you will be sent a voting paper.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Grans', written in a cursive style.

Head Teacher

Eligibility and Disqualification

A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of his or her election or appointment and cannot be a registered pupil at the school. A person cannot hold more than one governorship at the same school.

A person is disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a governor or associate member if he or she:

- fails to attend the governing body meetings - without the consent of the governing body - for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting missed (not applicable to ex officio governors);
- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, a debt relief restrictions order, or an interim debt relief restrictions order;
- has had his or her estate sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to:
 - i) a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986;
 - ii) a disqualification order under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002;
 - iii) a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002;
 - iv) an order made under Section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order);
- has been removed from the office of trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under Section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- has been removed from office as an elected governor within the last five years;
- is included in the list of people 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 142 of the Education Act 2002 or 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 and a half 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 convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational 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 for a criminal records certificate.

A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor if they are an elected member of the LA or if they work at the school for more than 500 hours in any school year.

Full details of the Regulations covering the disqualification criteria can be found at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/1034/contents/made>



Election of Parent Governors Nomination Form

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Please tick✓:

I declare that I have a child on roll at the school and am eligible and willing to serve as a parent governor

I declare that I have read and understood the disqualification criteria

I understand that the post requires me to hold a DBS certificate

Signature:

Nominated by*: (Signature, name in capitals and address)

Candidate's statement for inclusion on ballot paper:

This completed nomination form must be returned to the clerk at federation.clerk@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk or to the school by: **4pm on Friday, 8th March 2024.**

***Self-nomination is acceptable**