



The Bluecoat School and Nursery Unit

working in partnership with The Stamford Children's Centre

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Head Teacher – Mrs C Hines

22nd June 2016

Dear Parent

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

In accordance with the Education Acts the Governing Body of each school shall include Parent Governors, these being parents of registered pupils at the school elected by such parents.

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines 'parent' as:

- All natural parents, whether they are married or not
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person (having care of a child or young person means that a person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child, is considered to be a parent in education law).

This means that it is possible for a child to have more than two parents eligible to participate in an election.

A vacancy for a Parent Governor has arisen at this school, and it is therefore necessary to hold an election. If you are interested in being a candidate please complete the slip attached, proposed and seconded and forward it to the Returning Officer at the school, to arrive not later than Wednesday 6th July 2016. It is recommended that candidates supply a short personal statement (not more than 200 words) about themselves for circulation to voters.

Candidates should be aware of certain disqualification clauses relating in particular to bankruptcy and criminal convictions. If you are in any doubt about your eligibility to stand for election please contact the Returning Officer who will be able to supply you with further details.

The main duties and responsibilities of school Governors are set out overleaf. It should be noted that an elected Parent Governor is appointed for a four year term and may continue in office even though their child may have left the school part way through their four year term of office.

If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies you will be sent voting slips and details about the electoral process via your child. The results of the election will be placed on the school notice board.

Any queries relating to this election should be made to the Returning Officer at the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Hines
Returning Officer

DUTIES OF A GOVERNOR

Governors are not expected to be involved in the day-to-day management and administration of the school, but rather to set strategic plans for the school and to provide the Headteacher with guidance on general principles.

Whilst it is difficult to define in precise terms what all the duties of a Governor are, the following are among them:

- To work as a member of the Governing Body for the best interests of the school.
- Attend the regular meetings and special meetings of the Governing Body as well as meetings of any Committees to which they have been appointed.
- Become familiar with general educational issues and developments.
- Take an interest in school activities.
- Promote the school within the local community.
- Be able to commit time to the duties and responsibilities of a Governor.
- Be prepared to become involved in: -
 - Staff appointments.
 - Pupil discipline.
 - The school curriculum.
 - The financial management of the school.
 - Health and Safety matters.
 - Governor Training.

Governors have an increasingly important role and attending termly meetings only is not enough. It is essential that the person appointed must have and maintain a keen interest in the work and welfare of the school. Inevitably visits must be made to see the Headteacher and what the school is doing; to play an active part in the public and social life of the school. Governors also have the task of being the immediate “lay” support for the professional staff in the school.

To The Returning Officer – The Bluecoat School.

I _____ (Full name in block capitals).

Address _____

wish to stand for election as a Parent Governor of the above school.

Signed _____

The nomination is proposed by

Signed _____ Name _____

Seconded by Signed _____ Name _____

(Both of who are parents of pupils registered at the school).

A short personal statement about yourself (not more than 200 words)