



BLACKMINSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Dear parents and carers,

Parent Governor Vacancy at Pebworth First and Blackminster Middle Schools Federation

A vacancy has arisen on our Governing Body, and so we are looking to hold elections for the post of Parent Governors. Parent governors are a core part of a school's Board of Governors, along with

- Staff governors
- Local authority governors
- Co-opted governors
- Associate members

The role is voluntary and might appeal to you if you who want to make a positive impact on children's education and school life. The governor role has little interaction with the pupils or with daily school life, but is much more "behind the scenes".

We are looking for a parent governor who can bring their wealth of experience and knowledge, contributing to the successful running of the Federation. Being a governor is a "hands off" role – decisions made by the board influence both schools in the Federation, but governors are not responsible for, or involved in, the day-to-day running of the schools. The role is a necessary part of ensuring the good functioning of school leadership. Governors set the ethos of the schools and drive for continuous improvement, and they also oversee financial performance and ensure money is well-spent. Governors commission the head teacher and other school leaders to act on their behalf in putting their ideas into practice, and they ensure that the school leadership is held to account in doing so.

The responsibilities of the Governing body include

- Appointing the head teacher
- Being involved in the appointment of other staff
- Holding the federation's leadership to account
- Ensuring federation staff have training, support and resources to be effective
- Maintaining oversight of the schools' budget spending, including pupil premium allocation
- Deciding on the aims, strategy, vision and ethos of the schools
- Determining ways to put all of the above into practice as part of the schools' development plans
- Hearing the later stages of staff grievances or pupil exclusion appeals

Responsibility does not rest with any one individual. Decisions are made by the board as a whole, and individual governors are not held to account for collective decisions.



The term of office for a parent governors is usually four years, and it may extend beyond their child's time at the school if that child graduates or changes school during the four-year period. During this time, you would be expected to attend and contribute thoughts and ideas to the governing board's meetings.

Anyone who is over 18 years of age and has a child at either of the schools can express an interest in becoming a parent governor for the Federation. It falls to the judgement of the board that any parent wishing to act as a governor has the relevant skills and experience to govern effectively and contribute to the success of the schools. Prospective candidates can contact Phil Jones, Chair of Governors, to discuss responsibilities and expectations of the role before putting themselves forward for election. His email address is pjones@blackminster.worcs.sch.uk. There's also a legal requirement for parents to be DBS checked before starting their post as a governor.

Objectivity is essential to the role. Parent governors must promote the best interests of all children in the federation, and have a duty to maintain good relations with and be available to the other parents. Parent governors should not use committee meetings to raise issues affecting their own child at the expense of others. They can withdraw from meetings where they are concerned that they could not be impartial, or would stand to gain by the outcome of a resolution.

If you think you might be interested in standing for election as a Parent Governor, please contact Phil Jones (his email address is above) in the first instance. He will be able to advise you of the next steps. It's an important role, with huge scope for contributing to the continued success of our schools.

Kind regards,



Ms Linda McQuone
Executive Headteacher

