

18th January 2023

To: Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Thornhill Primary School is part of Changing lives Learning Trust and we have one vacancy for a parent governor to serve on Arlecdon and Thornhill's local governing board.

Parents/carers have much to offer and can play a vital role in helping the school meet the needs of the children and the community it serves. It is very important that parents/carers stand for election to the local governing board to represent the views of parents/carers.

All parents/carers of a registered child at Thornhill Primary School, and who are over the age of 18, are eligible to stand for election and to vote with the exception of the following:

- Those who work at the school for more than 500 hours in any consecutive 12-month period (at the time of election or appointment).
- Those who are ineligible for the reasons detailed in the enclosed sheet.

Parent governors are elected by other parents/carers and are vital to our governing board. They have the same responsibility as other governors for carrying out the governing board's wide range of responsibilities. Governors do not run the school day-to-day, as their role is at the monitoring level as prescribed by the scheme of delegation set out by the Multi-Academy Trust. You do not have to be an expert on education to be a governor and we value the experience that all governors bring to the role. Elected governors are expected to fulfil their duties in line with the Nolan Principles (The Seven Principles of Public Life).

If you join our governing board, you will serve a four-year term and you can continue to the end of the four years even if your child/children leave the school. Please be aware, being a governor does take up time. There are at least four local governing board meetings each year and governors usually serve on additional committees. Although the role of a governor is an unpaid position, it requires you to set aside time to prepare for meetings, visit the school, undertake and update training.

The successful candidate will be provided with relevant information once they are elected and it is expected that they will take part in training events to help them learn about their role. The trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects that all staff and volunteers share this commitment. The successful candidates will be required to undertake an Enhanced Check via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

If you would like to put your name forward please complete and return the nomination form, together with a short personal statement in support of your nomination (no longer than 250 words) by **4.00 pm on Wednesday 1st February 2023** to Lindsey Martin, Assistant Director martinl@onecumbria.education (or) handed to the school office in a sealed envelope.

These documents are also available on the website. It may be that you would wish to propose another parent (not including anyone to whom you are closely related) to serve as parent governor. Please note that in this case the parent should complete the nomination form after you have discussed this. In the event that the number of nominations received exceeds the available position it will be necessary to hold an election and further details of these arrangements will be provided.

Please remember, decisions taken by the governing board will affect your child's future. To make sure you have a voice in that decision making, please make every effort to take part in this process.

We believe in equal opportunities and we are determined to ensure that no applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, disability, religion, belief, sexual orientation, marital status, or race, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'D' at the start.

David Davidson
Chair of Arlecdon and Thornhill Primary Schools Local Governing Board