



## VERNON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Parent Governor Vacancies

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing board. The governing board is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If more than one nomination is received, then a ballot will be held.

The governing board is responsible for both the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards. The governing board carries out its role by setting the vision for the school and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving its vision. It does this by building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community, by both supporting and constructively challenging the school, and by ensuring accountability and compliance. The governing board of our school is made up parent governors, co-opted governors, Local Authority governors, staff governors and associate governors.

Before you decide to nominate someone, or indeed stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Governors do not need to be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and in the welfare of our children and the time and willingness to get involved. The skills you have can be very useful to the governing board. At the moment the governing board is seeking to strengthen our skills with a new parent governor with a background in finance/contracts management. If you are someone with the required experience, would you consider applying? Governors also need what is known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All governors are expected to be able to read straightforward budget reports and data on school standards.

Our governing board expects governors to:

- attend 3 clerked Full Governing Board (FGB) meetings per year
- attend 3 informal FGB meetings per year
- Join the finance committee and attend regular meetings usually once per term.
- visit the school both formally and informally throughout the school year
- commit to attending training courses



*Nobody else is quite like me'*



In return, our governing body commits to:

- provide you with induction and support with a governor mentor
- provide access to quality training both online, virtual and face to face training sessions

Parent governors play a vital role on governing boards, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through the children, they have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. This enables parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school. Although being available to advise parents on appropriate routes of action is a very important aspect of the role, it is vital that parent governors do not personally become involved in individual concerns, no school governor has the authority to act individually on behalf of the school.

If you would like to find out more information about Governor role in our school please take a look at the governors area of the Vernon Primary School website <http://www.vernonprimaryschool.com> or email the Chair of Governors, Ashley Hickson at [chair@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:chair@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)

Please note that for the protection of children all governor appointments are subject to a vetting process and identity check.

If you would like to put yourself forward as a candidate, please complete the Spider Survey and email your completed eligibility declaration and personal statement to [admin@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk). The deadline for nominations is 17:00 on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Your nomination should be accompanied by a short personal statement which should include:

- Evidence of the extent to which you possess the skills and experience the governing body desires;
- Your commitment to undertake training to acquire or develop the skills to be an effective governor;
- If seeking re-election, details of your contribution to the work of the governing body during their previous term of office; and
- How you plan to contribute to the future work of the governing body.

If it is necessary for there to be an election, I will contact you to let you know about the arrangements.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January and you will be sent a voting paper.

We look forward to welcoming a new member to our team.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J Carvell / Ashley Hickson  
Headteacher / Chair of Governors



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