

13 September 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Following reorganisation of our Local Academy Committee, I am writing to inform you of a vacancy for the role of parent governor and seek nominations for the position.

The role of the Local Academy Committee (LAC)

The LAC is the school's governing body and is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership, and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance. It is passionate about education and committed to continuous school improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students.

The role of a parent governor

As a parent governor, you'll work with other governors on the LAC to ensure it effectively carries out these duties. You'll also play a vital role in ensuring that the governing body relates to, and is aware of the views of, parents and the local community.

To be a parent governor you should have:

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children.
- Good interpersonal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills.
- Transferable skills to ensure the LAC delivers effective governance.

The LAC encourages applications from all members of society, regardless of background, gender, ethnicity, disability, religion, or age and is keen to ensure that our LAC reflects the rich cultural diversity of our school community.

Expectations of governors

As a parent governor you will be expected to abide by a code of conduct, maintain confidentiality and commit to training appropriate to the role, including induction training. Most training is currently virtual/online although there are opportunities for face-to-face training sessions.

The LAC has 9 meetings per year which are usually held in school from 6-8pm on Wednesday evenings and you will be expected to read the documents provided ahead of the meeting.

All of our governors have a link to a curriculum area and governors are encouraged to make visits into school either to meet up with their link staff member(s) or for other events.

You do not need a background in education to be a governor and will be supported in all aspects of your role.

How to apply/ More information

If you are interested in applying for the role, please complete the attached self-nomination form and return it to the school office or by email to enquiries@st-johnfisher.org by **12 noon on 27 September 2024**.

Some people are disqualified from being a school governor and a list of these disqualifications is given below.

Your application should include a short statement (max 250 words) that may include details of the relevant skills and experience you have, your commitment to undertaking training to acquire or develop the skills needed to be an effective governor and how you feel you are able to contribute to the future work of the LAC.

If we receive more than two nominations, a secret ballot will be carried out. We will inform you closer to the time if we must do this.

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact either me, the school office or our Chair of Governors, Mr Dan Beever, by email d.beever@st-johnfisher.org.

Yours sincerely

F Barratt
Headteacher

You are disqualified from being a school governor if you:

- Are a registered pupil at the school
- Are under 18 years old
- Fail to attend their meetings for 6 consecutive months without the consent of the governing body
- Are the subject of:
 - A bankruptcy restrictions order, or an interim bankruptcy restrictions order
 - A debt relief restrictions order, or an interim debt relief restrictions order
 - A sequestration that has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
- Have been disqualified from being a company director and/or a charity trustee
- Have been removed from office as an elected governor within the last 5 years
- Are included in the list of those unsuitable to work with children
- Are disqualified from working with children, barred from regulated activity and/or disqualified from registering for childminding or providing day care
- Are disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006
- Are subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002, or to a section 128 direction
- Are disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
- Have been sentenced to 3 months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the 5 years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
- Have received a prison sentence of 2 and a half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
- Have at any time received a prison sentence of 5 years or more
- Have been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor
- Refuse a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

In addition, parent governors cannot be elected members of the local authority (LA) or paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in a year.