

Dedworth Middle School: Vacancies for Parent Governors

September 15, 2017

Dear Parents,

We now have vacancies on our Local Governing Board for parent* governors, and wonder whether you would be interested in putting yourself or another parent forward for this role. As an Academy and part of the Windsor Learning Partnership group of schools, this is a particularly interesting time to join this positive and thoughtful body of volunteers.

- Are you able to attend two meetings in each long term (one evening and one during the day)?
- Are you interested in helping to deliver the best possible education for all pupils in the school to realise their expectations and aspirations?
- Do you see yourself supporting, challenging and contributing to the leadership of the school, creating positive solutions for school improvements?

No previous experience is necessary – training on the role is provided. If we receive more nominations than there are places, there will be an election by secret ballot – a parent from each family being eligible to vote.

Have a look at the governors' page of the school website to find out more about who we are and what we do.

What would you get out of being a school governor?

- The knowledge that you have played a part in improving children's education and supported the school's staff.
- A chance to develop new, highly transferable skills and to practise existing ones, such as thinking about strategy, taking on responsibilities, speaking in groups, asking questions, making suggestions and appointing staff.
- A chance to volunteer as part of an active team, contribute to committee work, learn more about the school and about school governance.
- An opportunity to play an active part in the local community

What can you offer?

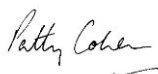
- Enthusiasm
- Commitment
- Knowledge
- Experience
- Individual perspective

What makes a good school governor?

- You care about improving children's educational attainment
- You want to contribute to the local community
- You want to be part of the team
- You are willing to ask questions
- You are open to ideas and willing to learn
- You are willing to attend training to develop your knowledge and skills

Please let us know if you might be interested in taking on this role, and we can send you further information and a nomination form. We are particularly keen that the Governing Body should reflect the diversity of our pupils and their families.

With all good wishes,



Patty Cohen, Chair of Governors <mailto:cohep006@dedworthmiddle.co.uk>

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The procedure

September 18 - 30	Recruitment of eligible nominees**
October 13	Deadline for nominations
October 16	If more nominees than places, ballot forms will be sent out
October 19	Deadline for voting (if applicable)
November 7: 2-5pm	New governors attend Governors' Meeting
	Induction and training

* Definition of 'parent'

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines "parent" to include:

- all natural parents, whether they are married or not; and
- any person who, although not a natural parent, has *parental responsibility* for a child or young person; and
- any person who, although not a natural parent, *has care* of a child or young person.

** Eligible for nomination

A person is disqualified from standing for election or appointment as a parent governor if s/he is:

- An elected member of the local education authority; or
- Paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any consecutive 12 month period (at the time of the election or appointment); or
- A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office if that person:
 - is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order, debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)
 - has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body
 - is included in the list of teachers or workers considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people
 - is barred from any regulated activity relating to children
 - is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
 - is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care
 - is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
 - has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
 - has received a prison sentence of two years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
 - has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
 - has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor
 - refuses a request for the clerk to apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a criminal records check.