



Shelton Junior School

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Headteacher: Mr J. Bacon

2021

Governor recruitment

Dear Parents and Carers,

Shelton Junior School is currently looking for a Partnership governor to join the school's governing body. Unfortunately, a Partnership governor cannot be a parent or carer of a child at the school. However, we are asking parents and carers if they know someone who might be the right person to join us, perhaps a neighbour or work colleague.

Who are we looking for?

We want a team of governors who possess a diverse range of skills, experiences, qualifications, characteristics and perspectives, and who come from different backgrounds and settings.

We welcome applications from everyone and see the value of the different experiences and skills each applicant will bring to the table; however, if you know someone who possess skills and experience in the following areas, we'd particularly love to hear from them:

- Knowledge and or experience of the community served by the school
- Financial knowledge

A diverse governing board will help children from all backgrounds to succeed and thrive – it allows us to create a culture of inclusion, challenge barriers, biases and stereotypes, and provide a wide range of role models for our pupils.

Why become a governor?

Governors are volunteers and can make a real difference to the lives of local children and ensure every child receives the education they deserve. A governor's voice can influence important decisions for the school, such as how funding is spent, and affect how the school is run. They will also make links across the community by working closely with fellow stakeholders, parents and staff.

Dedicating their time

We try to keep meetings to a minimum and make sure every minute spent as a governor is worthwhile. We hold just six governing board meetings a year on average. Meetings are held at the school and usually begin at 5:00pm and finish around 7:00pm and they will be expected to do some preparation in advance of the meetings. Pre-planned visits during the school day occur occasionally, to enable first-hand experience of the school in operation. Sometimes impromptu meetings may be necessary but only in exceptional

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Learn ... reach your full potential - *curiosity, concentration*

Trust ... caring staff support every child in school - *collaboration*

Succeed ... overcome barriers - *resilience, reflectiveness*

circumstances and we will try to give as much notice as possible. Meetings at the moment are virtual – on TEAMS.

The term of office is 4 years. Governors may resign at any time during this term.

Governors will be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service Check and will be required to complete a Disqualification by Association and Pecuniary Information form. Please note that there are certain restrictions which prevent a person becoming a Governor, for example:

- People who are bankrupt may not serve as Governors, nor may people who have in the previous five years been sentenced to three months or more in prison without the option of a fine, people who have been sentenced to a period of more than two and a half years of imprisonment may not stand within twenty years of that conviction and anyone who has been sentenced to a period of imprisonment of five years or more is totally disqualified.
- People who are disqualified from working with children may not hold office as a Governor.

Partnership Governors Eligibility

Partnership governors are only required in foundation and foundation special schools that, in either case, do not have a foundation. The board is responsible for seeking nominations from parents and such other persons in the community as they consider appropriate and appointing partnership governors. Partnership governors must have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. Certain categories of individuals cannot be a partnership governor e.g. parents of current pupils, school staff, and local authority employees involved in education.

Role: Partnership governors act in the best interests of the foundation school and the wider community but should not be required by others, such as the appointing board or community, to take a particular stance on issues discussed at board meetings.

Settling into the new role

All of our governors are given support and access to a range of training courses to help them understand their role. There will be an opportunity to meet with existing governors and attend a governing body meeting before being invited to join the team if you decided you wanted to proceed.

What's next?

If you know someone that may be interested in becoming a Partnership governor please ask them to email our Clerk to Governors below (or drop off a paper version at school) a short personal statement of no more than 200 words, telling us about themselves or if they would like to know more about what governance involves simply email gsimpkin@sheltonj.derby.sch.uk (Clerk to governors) to find out more.

Please note, by registering an interest in becoming a governor it does not guarantee a place on the board; if we receive multiple nominations then the governing body will look to select the person who we think can bring the most to the role in terms of their enthusiasm and relevant skills. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind Regards,

Karen Phillips
Chair of Governors

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