



Anthony Gell School

8 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

Following on from my letter dated 1 November, I write as promised with the formal letter I am required to send in these circumstances.

There are two vacancies for Parent Governors on the School's Governing Board and I would very much appreciate you considering whether or not you would like to become a parent governor at Anthony Gell School. Parent Governors provide an invaluable source of support for the school and the successful appointees would join an excellent group of Governors. An information sheet below provides more details regarding the position of Parent Governor. If, having read this, you would like to receive the nomination form and additional information regarding the election process these will be available by contacting the Clerk to Governors, Heather Harper. Heather can be contacted on 01629 825577 or by email hharper@anthonygell.co.uk

All completed nomination forms will need to be returned to the school office by **12.00 noon on Friday 26 November 2021**.

A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a Parent Governor if they are an elected member of the Local Authority or if they work at the school for more than 500 hours in any consecutive 12 month period.

In all types of schools, governing boards should have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

- a. **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
- b. **Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and**
- c. **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

For further detailed information on the role of the governor, please see the *Governors' Handbook and Competency Framework*: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook> There is also a summary provided overleaf.

If you have any questions about whether or not you are eligible to stand or vote in the election or about anything else contained within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Kelly
Headteacher / Returning Officer

Wood Street, Wirksworth, Derbyshire DE4 4DX

Headteacher: Malcolm Kelly

COULD YOU BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR?

A Parent Governor has:

- ❖ An interest in **all** the children's future
- ❖ A desire to make a difference
- ❖ A willingness to accept responsibility
- ❖ An ability to work in a team and is happy to ask questions, listen and learn
- ❖ The skills to contribute to effective governance and success of the school or at least the capacity and willingness to develop them

and will:

- ❖ Act with integrity, objectivity and honesty in the best interests of the school
- ❖ Fulfil a largely strategic role in the running of the school
- ❖ Visit and get to know the school and the people in it in accordance with the agreed visits protocol
- ❖ Work in partnership with the Headteacher to raise standards
- ❖ Actively contribute to the work of the Governing
- ❖ Abide by the adopted Code of Practice.

Once elected, a parent Governor must operate in the best interest of all pupils and not as representatives to lobby on behalf of their constituency.

Parent Governors:

- ❖ Help to decide the priorities for improving the school
- ❖ Focus on their three core strategic functions
- ❖ Work co-operatively with other Governors in the best interest of the school
- ❖ Attend the meetings of the Governing Board and its Committees
- ❖ Promote the interest of the school in the wider community
- ❖ Have an equal right to participate and to state their views whilst respecting the views of others
- ❖ Are loyal to the decisions made by the Governing Board
- ❖ Respect the confidentiality of those items of business that have been designated as confidential and do not disclose what individuals have said or how they have voted
- ❖ Withdraw from a decision from which he or she or a partner or close relative stands to gain or where he or she is too involved to be objective
- ❖ Have regard to the broader responsibilities as a Governor of a public institution in regard to promoting a public accountability for the actions and performance of the Governing Board
- ❖ Participate in training.