



Dear Parent/Carer,

NOTICE OF ELECTION - PARENT LOCAL GOVERNOR ELECTION

I am writing to you to invite you to stand for election as a parent local governor, or nominate another parent to do so. In our school we have provision for two parent local governors and there is currently one vacancy.

The Local Governing Body, with the Headteacher, has responsibility for the running of the school. The Local Governing body of the Thomas Hardy School has had the following responsibilities delegated to it by the Directors of the Multi-Academy Trust:

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

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the Governing Body's work. However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with any skills or experience in the following areas: finance, community, education, human resources, equality and diversity, health and safety, management, welfare and health, strategic planning or any other skills you have that you feel will be useful to the board. Training is available for all governors and this governing body has an expectation that those new to being a governor attend free induction and safeguarding training.

The enclosed sheet summarises the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor. In addition, parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 or more hours per academic year or who are elected members of the Local Authority are not eligible to stand in these elections. Nominations must be from parents or an individual exercising parental responsibility of a registered pupil at the Thomas Hardy School on the day that nominations close.

If you would like to stand for election please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school no later than Wednesday 25th November 20. You may also include a short personal statement to support your nomination, which should be no longer than 250 words. Self-nominations will be accepted, but if you are nominating another parent please seek their prior consent.

If there are more nominations than vacancies the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs V Smyth
Clerk to Trustees - vsmyth@thomas-hardye.net

Nomination form

Election of Parent Local Governor

Please enter IN BLOCK LETTERS the name and address of the person being nominated for election:

Name: _____

Address:

Signature of person nominated: _____

Signature of proposer (if different to nominee): _____

Name and address in BLOCK letters of proposer (if different to nominee):

Personal Statement (maximum 250 words)

I wish to submit my nomination for the election of parent local governor

I confirm (i) that I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a parent local governor and (ii) that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons set out in the School Governance Regulations.

Signature

(Date)

Completed nomination forms must be returned to the school by 25th November 2020

Qualifications and disqualifications to serve as an academy governor

There are three broad categories of grounds for disqualification.

1. General grounds.
2. Grounds that apply to particular categories of governor.
3. Grounds that arise because of particular failings or actions on the part of a governor.

All the grounds for disqualification apply also to associate members, except that associate members can be registered pupils at the school and can be under 18.

1. General grounds state that:
 - registered pupils cannot be governors
 - governors must be aged 18 or over at the time of election or appointment
2. Grounds that apply to particular categories of governor
 - Parent governors must be a person who is the parent, or an individual exercising parental responsibility, of a registered pupil at one or more Academies overseen by the Local Governing Body at the time when he/she is elected.

A person should also be disqualified from being a governor if he or she:

- have failed to attend the meetings of the governing body of that school for a continuous period of six months
- is subject to a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order; interim bankruptcy restriction order; a debt relief restrictions order; an interim debt relief restrictions order
- has been declared bankrupt and/or their estate has been repossessed for the benefit of creditors and the declaration or seizure has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order).
- is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee by virtue of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision); or is otherwise found to be unsuitable by the Secretary of State; or ceases to be a governor/trustee under any provision in the Companies Act 2006;
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or as a charity trustee by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which he as responsible or to which he was privy, or which he by his conduct contributed to or facilitated.
- have been convicted of any criminal offence except for those 'spent' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, or those for which the maximum sentence is a fine or lesser sentence unless they have been convicted of an offence outlined in Section 178 of the Companies Act 2011;
- has not provided an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to the chair under section 113B of the Police Act 1997; or where they have, the chair, chief

executive officer or headteacher determines that their unsuitability to work with children renders them disqualified.

- have become incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing or administering his own affairs

Anyone proposed or serving as a governor who is disqualified for one of these reasons must notify the Clerk to the governing body