



Headteacher: Mr. D Downs BSc (Hons)

“Success through partnership”

Monday, 6th November 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Parent Governor Vacancies

There is currently one vacancy for a parent governor. If you wish to stand for election as one of the parent governors of the school, you will need to complete a nomination form, along with a declaration of eligibility. Nomination forms will need to be returned to the College office by 3pm on Friday 17th November 2017.

Parent governors play a very important role in keeping the governing body aware of the views from the parental perspective. They are a vital part of our team and I hope that there are parents willing to give their time and commitment to this important role. Attached are details of what will be expected of a governor. Our governing body has a wide skill set and would welcome applicants from any background. Whilst not essential, knowledge of interpreting data would be a great asset.

If 2 or more nominations are received, I shall arrange for parents to receive ballot papers which will include the candidates' election statements. Votes will be counted at 2pm on Tuesday 28th November 2017. Candidates may attend the count. I shall arrange for all parents to be notified of the result.

If you are interested in being nominated and/or want further information, you might find it helpful to talk to Karen Marr, the Chair of Governors, Mr Fitzpatrick or one of the existing Parent Governors. Alternatively you can view East Sussex County Council's website about Governors and their roles at:

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolgovernors/becoming/default.htm>

I have enclosed an extract from the Regulations concerning the qualifications and disqualification connected with the office of governor. Please read them carefully.

Yours sincerely

Kate Davies

Clerk to the Governing Body

## What qualifications do governors need?

There are no formal qualifications. Schools need volunteers with experience of life. The one essential requirement is an interest in, and commitment to, the education of children. Governors are ordinary people, drawn from many areas of society. They need to be able to devote time to getting to know the school well and be available to support and challenge it.

A governor must be a good listener, and someone who is able to read and take in information easily. A governor must be able to:

- raise questions and take part in discussion and decision-making
- be discreet, open minded and fair
- be a source of ideas and a good communicator
- be enthusiastic about the work of the school
- be prepared to work as part of a team.

Whilst schools are keen to welcome applications from all areas of society, there are certain criteria that have to be met before your application can be accepted. In relation to a community school, maintained nursery or a voluntary controlled school the governing body must appoint as a parent governor—

- (a) a parent of a registered pupil at the school; or if this is not possible then:
- (b) a parent of a former registered pupil at the school; or
- (c) a parent of a child under or of compulsory school age.

## How long do governors serve?

The usual term of office is four years. However, governors are volunteers who can leave at any time and can similarly be re-appointed or re-elected.

At Robertsbridge Community College we normally hold 11 full governing body meetings per year. Each meeting is held at 5pm and is a maximum of 2 hours per meeting. You may also be asked to join a sub-committee or working party.

## What kinds of help and support are available?

A great deal of professional advice and support is available to help governors with their duties and responsibilities, along with a full training programme which is run by the Local Authority.