



17th March 2025

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Dear Parents/Guardians

Vacancy for a Parent Governor at Arden

I writing to make you aware of an exciting opportunity to take an active role in the school. We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join the Local Governing Board (LGB). The LGB play a vital role in the life of the school, providing support, challenge and oversight as a 'critical friend'. This is, therefore, a unique opportunity to make a significant contribution to the school, the lives of our students and staff and the wider community. To qualify, you must currently have a child at a school in the Trust.

As a Parent Governor you will sit as a full member of the LGB alongside other parents, staff and representatives of the wider community. Each Governor also sits on one of our two sub-committees and is linked with one or two department areas, providing support and challenge to our Heads of Departments and a direct connection between the board and the day to day life of the school. You would, therefore, need to be able to commit to supporting the school through attendance and contributions to meetings (approximately one per half term) and occasional meetings with your link department(s).

As a parent, you will of course bring your own unique perspective to the LGB's discussions, but it is important that you are able to do so objectively and not be unduly influenced by your own child's perspective or individual circumstances or issues. You should also note that no individual may be a Governor of more than two schools. There are also circumstances that disqualify an individual from being a Governor (please see the attached guidance for further information on this and the general expectations of the role).

If you would like to stand for election you should complete the attached form¹ and return it to the School Office in a sealed envelope clearly marked **Parent Governor Elections (c/o Tori Large)**. You should also supply a short statement (not more than 100 words) in support of your candidature.

The closing date for the receipt of nominations is Friday 28th March at 9am.

These are exciting times for Arden and I encourage you to stand for election.

Yours sincerely

Dave Warwood
Associate Headteacher

¹ The form is also available to download from the school website.





An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Parent Governor at Arden!

The Role of Parent Governor

There are lots of ways in which you can donate expertise to Arden, but one of the most important and responsible - and let's face it, one which involves the greatest commitment - is becoming a Governor.

What do school governors do?

School governors are a fabulous team of people who work closely with our Associate Headteacher to make key decisions vital to the successful running of the school and who play an important role in improving standards throughout the academy.

What do I have to offer?

As a Parent Governor, you can make a valuable contribution to the running of Arden. You will be able to offer your enthusiasm and commitment - and as a parent/guardian, you'll understand other parents'/guardians' concerns. Governors with business and management experience, or a host of other skills, can also offer extremely helpful expertise to us.

What will I get out of it?

Being a school governor can be a rewarding experience. You'll be playing an important role in improving the education of our children and supporting the school's staff. Giving a lot to the school and the local community usually means you'll get a lot back. You will have the opportunity to make a difference, not only for your children, but for children in years to come.

How much time does it take?

The time that governors are able to give to the role varies but there are certain things they must be in a position to do, so be aware:

- the governing body must meet at least once a term
- governors are probably asked to serve on at least one committee which will meet more often
- meetings are sometimes held during the working day and very often during the evening
- governors will have to prepare for meetings and there can be a lot of papers to read

A person is disqualified from holding office as a Parent Governor if he or she:

- is subject to a bankruptcy restriction order or an interim order;
- has had his or her estate sequestrated and the sequestration order has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to:

- i) a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Act 1986
- ii) an order made under Section 492(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order);
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or Mismanagement
 - is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children;
 - is disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under Section 142 of the Education Act 2002;
 - is disqualified from registration for childminding or providing day care;
 - is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;
 - has received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor
 - has received a prison sentence of two-and-a-half 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 election as a governor
 - refuses to allow an application to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate.

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Tori Large (Governance Professional) at vlarge@arden.solihull.sch.uk

PARENT GOVERNOR: APPLICATION FORM

Candidate name:	
Candidate address:	
Candidate statement:	

I confirm that I am a parent or carer of a registered pupil at the school/at one of the schools in the academy trust.

Signed:

Date:

Please return completed form to the School Office in a sealed envelope clearly marked **Parent Governor Elections (c/o Tori Large)** or email to: vlarge@arden.solihull.sch.uk