

PARK HIGH SCHOOL PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION INFORMATION SHEET

Important note

When there are no vacancies, our governing body will have a total of eighteen members: the Headteacher; six member-appointed governors; one Local Authority appointee; two teachers; one member of support staff and seven parent/carer governors. The Companies Act 2006 requires that "the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by Local Authority Associated Persons shall never exceed 19.9% of the total number". This means that we are limited to no more than 3 governors being LA Associated Persons. We already have 3 governors who fall under this definition – our LA appointee and two of our current parent governors. Consequently, we are unable to accept applications from anyone working for any local authority (not only Harrow) or for a local authority school, library, etc.

Parent Governor

This is a parent who is elected by parents of registered pupils at the school and who is himself/herself a parent of a registered pupil attending the school at the time of the election.

A Parent Governor is, in every sense, a full Governor with the same rights to participate and contribute to shared decisions as any other Governor.

Term of office

All Governors serve a four-year term of office.

A Parent Governor can remain on the Governing Body of the school for the whole of the 4-year term of office, regardless of whether his/her child has left the school during that period.

No Governor may serve on more than two Governing Bodies of maintained schools at any one time.

Eligibility

All those who are a parent, carer or have parental responsibility for a registered child at the school are entitled to make a nomination, to stand and to vote in parent governor elections. This is not changed by separation or divorce, unless a Court so orders.

Legal guardians and foster parents would count as 'parents' for these purposes but local authorities or voluntary organisations would not.

Disqualification

A statutory disqualification list is attached. If any of the circumstances listed on the disqualification list apply to an individual before or after election or appointment as a governor, the individual must inform the Chair of Governors as this will automatically render the individual ineligible to be appointed or to continue as a governor.

Nominations

No-one may nominate more candidates than there are vacancies.

Those being nominated must be willing to stand in the election.

Proposers must be parents of registered pupils at the school and should not be related to the person being nominated.

An individual who is nominated may nominate one or two candidates provided that she/he is eligible to do so (see eligibility above).

An individual may nominate himself/herself.

The receipt of nominations will cease on the date specified and no further nominations will be accepted.

When no election is required

If by the closing date for the receipt of nominations the number of nominations received is less than, or equal to the number of vacancies, no election is required and those nominated are declared to be elected governors unopposed (provided they meet the specifications outlined above).

Secret ballot

If there are more nominations than vacancies the school will arrange to hold a secret ballot.

Voting arrangements

A Returning Officer will be appointed to oversee the whole election. A letter will be sent to all those eligible to vote (see eligibility above) outlining the process and including a list of names of the candidates and a copy of each of their statements, the ballot paper, and a timetable.

Each parent is entitled to one vote per vacancy, regardless of the number of children she/he may have in the school.

The count

The count will take place on the date and time given when the voting papers are issued.

In the event of a tie, the votes will be recounted. If the votes cast are still equal, lots will be drawn to decide on the successful candidate.

Announcing the result

The result of the election will be made known to all parents.

STATUTORY DISQUALIFICATION FROM MEMBERSHIP OF A GOVERNING BODY

An individual is automatically disqualified if s/he:

- is not aged 18 years or over at the time of his/her election or appointment;
- holds more than one governorship at the same school;
- is elected, or appointed, to the office as a school governor at more than two school Governing Bodies (*unless as an ex-officio or temporary governor or an additional governor at a school causing concern*);
- has been absent without the Governing Body's consent for 6 months from the date of the first missed meeting (*such people cannot be nominated or re-appointed to the same Governing body during the 12 months following their disqualification, although disqualified teachers, staff or parent governors may seek re-election subsequently*);
- can be compulsorily detained under an order made under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- has been adjudged a bankrupt, or has made a composition arrangement with his/her creditors. This disqualification shall cease on the date which payment of debts is completed and in any other case it shall cease on the expiration of five years from the date on which the terms of the deed of composition or arrangement are fulfilled;
- has been disqualified from serving as a company director under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, or is subject to an order made under section 429(2) (b) of the insolvency Act 1986 for failing to make payments under a county court administration order;
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commissions or the High Court on grounds of any misconduct or administrative mismanagement, or under section 7 of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990 from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- is included in the list of teachers or workers prohibited or restricted from working with children or young people (known as List 99);
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State;
- has been sentenced to 3 months or more in prison, without the option of a fine, in the 5 years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor;
- has received a 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 for 5 years or more;
- has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises, under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996, during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor.

Park High School

NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION



This form should be returned to Gemma Chambers, Clerk to the Governors, via Reception, by 12 noon on Friday 27 September 2019.

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

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL NO Home _____ Work _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Signature of proposer (if different to nominee): _____

NAME OF CHILD _____ Tutor Group _____

I wish to be nominated for the parent governor vacancy. I confirm I have read and understand the Information Sheet and Statutory Requirements documents

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

If you are nominating someone else, please first check that she/he is willing to stand and ask him or her to complete and sign the section above.

NAME OF PROPOSER

NAME OF CHILD _____ Tutor Group _____

SIGNATURE

*Delete as appropriate

The candidate should provide a statement of no more than 250 words which will be produced in a standard format and circulated to all parents if an election is held. In your statement, please say why you would like to be a school governor.

