



Birmingham Federation
Maintained Nursery Schools

Monday 15th May 2023

STAFF GOVERNOR ELECTION

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you to invite you to stand for election as a staff governor, or nominate another member of staff to do so. In our Federation Governing Body, we have provision for one staff governor and there is currently a vacancy.

The enclosed sheet summarises the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor. Any person nominating another member of staff or nominating themselves must be employed by the LA or the GB under a contract of employment and work at one or more of the 9 schools.

The GB, with the Executive Head Teachers, has overall responsibility for the running of all 9 schools within the Federation. The role of a school governor is to contribute to the work of the GB in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the schools by:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction across the Federation
- holding the EHTs to account for the educational performance of the schools, their pupils, and the performance management of their staff; and
- overseeing the financial performance of the schools and making sure money is well spent.

The staff governor also has the role of the representative of staff across the Federation.

The role of governor can be demanding but very rewarding. Staff governors serve a 4 year term of office and under usual circumstances, can expect to spend between 10 and 20 days a year on governing duties. These include:

- attending meetings of the GB, usually outside of school hours and contributing to GB business; 6 meetings per academic year
- Attending scrutiny committees of one cluster of schools: an additional 6 meetings per academic year
- reading reports and papers and keeping up to date on the progress that the schools are making; and
- visiting the schools from time to time during the school day.

The elected staff member will be expected to sign a governors' Code of Conduct, and to have:

- a strong commitment to the role and improving outcomes for children
- the inquisitiveness to question and analyse;
- the willingness to learn;
- good inter-personal skills;
- appropriate levels of literacy in English (unless a GB is prepared to make special arrangements); and
- sufficient numeracy skills to understand basic data.

Training is available for all governors and this GB has an expectation that those new to school governance attend free induction training.

To find out more about our Federation GB (i.e. frequency of meetings etc.) and the GB's code of conduct, please contact Samantha Richards, Executive Head Teacher, at s.richards@jakeman.bham.sch.uk.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it no later than Monday 22nd May 2023 to governor@jakeman.bham.sch.uk. You may also include a personal statement to support your nomination. There is no limit on the length of this statement; however, we encourage candidates to be succinct when setting out the skills, experience and attributes that they can bring to the GB to support their

nomination. Self-nominations will be accepted. If you are nominating another member of staff, please seek their prior consent.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, the election will be by secret ballot on Friday 26th May 2023. If a ballot is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all staff by email, together with details of the ballot procedure.

Yours faithfully,

Samantha Richards

Executive Head Teacher

Returning Officer

Enc. Nomination form
Governor disqualification details



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Qualifications and disqualifications to serve as a school governor

Grounds for disqualification fall into three broad categories:

- general grounds;
- grounds that apply to particular categories of governor; and
- grounds that arise because of particular failings or actions on the part of the 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.

General grounds

Registered pupils cannot be governors.

A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of election or appointment.

A person cannot hold more than one governor post at the same school at the same time.

Grounds that apply to particular categories of governor

A person is disqualified from being a parent governor if they are an elected member of the LA or paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours (i.e. for more than one-third of the hours of a full-time equivalent) in any consecutive twelve month period at the time of election or appointment.

A person is disqualified from being a local authority governor if they are eligible to be a staff governor at the school.

A person is disqualified from being a partnership governor if they are:

- a parent of a registered pupil at the school;
- eligible to be a staff governor at the school;

- an elected member of the local authority; or
- employed by the local authority in connection with its education functions.

Grounds that arise because of particular failings or actions on the part of the governor

A person is disqualified from being a governor of a particular school if they have failed to attend the meetings of the governing body of that school for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting they failed to attend, without the consent of the governing body. This does not apply to the headteacher or to foundation governors appointed by virtue of their office.

A foundation, local authority, co-opted or partnership governor at the school who is disqualified for failing to attend meetings, is only disqualified from being a governor of any category at the school during the twelve month period starting on the date on which they were disqualified.

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor of a school if, in summary, that person:

- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order; an interim bankruptcy restrictions order; debt relief restrictions order; an interim debt relief restrictions order; or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986; a disqualification order under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order);
- has been removed from the office of trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- has been removed from office as an elected governor within the last five years;

- is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people;
- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children;
- is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 or section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008;
- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care;
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State 22;
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as a governor or since becoming a governor;
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has received a prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as a governor;
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more;
- has been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the five years ending with the date immediately preceding appointment/election or since appointment or election as a governor;
- refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a criminal records certificate.

Anyone proposed or serving as a governor who is disqualified for one of these reasons, must notify the clerk/governance professional to the governing body.



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NOMINATION FORM for the election of staff 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):

Please complete your personal statement on the reverse of this nomination form.

There is no limit on the length of this statement; however, we encourage candidates to read the nomination letter carefully and be succinct when setting out the skills, experience and attributes that they can bring to the Governing Board (GB).

Your personal statement will be provided to each person who is eligible to vote.

Completed nomination forms must be returned no later than Monday 22nd May 2023.

Please email your nominations to governor@jakeman.bham.sch.uk.

Personal Statement

I wish to submit my nomination for the election of staff governor

I confirm (i) that I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a staff governor and (ii) that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons set out in the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012.

Signature:

Date: