



Astbury St Mary's C of E Primary School

Walk in love as Christ loves you. Ephesians 5:2

A Christian family who care, share and learn together

Head Teacher Miss P. Blythe

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Astbury

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Re Parent governor elections for a current vacancy.

Dear Parent(s)

The governing body is responsible for both the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards. The governing body carries out its role by setting the vision for the school and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving its vision. It does this by building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community, by both supporting and constructively challenging the school, and by ensuring accountability and compliance. The governing body of our school is made up of parent governors, staff governors and foundation governors.

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If more than one nomination is received, then a ballot will be held.

Before you decide to nominate someone, or indeed stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Governors need not be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and in the welfare of our children and the time and willingness to get involved. The skills you have can be very useful to the governing body. The governing body needs governors who have expertise in legal matters, human resources, marketing, data analysis, financial management and project management. If you are someone with the required experience, would you consider applying? Governors also need what is known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All governors are expected to be able to read straightforward budget reports and data on school standards.

Our governing body expects governors to:

- attend all termly meetings of the full governing body – one in Autumn, one in Spring and Summer
- sit on at least one committee and attend the meetings which are usually held once a term
- visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least three times a year
- visit the school informally at least three times a year
- commit to attend training courses, perform additional research as required and take part in monitoring at least one area within the school

In return, our governing body commits to

- provide you with a structured induction
- provide access to quality training via the Governors Learning Partnership.
- provide you with an experienced governor as mentor
- provide informal feedback on your contribution to the governing body on a bi-annual basis

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at our school, please email admin@astbury.cheshire.sch.uk with your contact details and school will pass on your details to the chair who will then arrange a time for a conversation. You might also like to look at the information for prospective governors on the Department for Education website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/governance/becomingagovernor/rolesandresponsibilities/a0056625/the-role-of-governor-within-the-governing-body>



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Please note that for the protection of children, all governor appointments are subject to a vetting check.

If you would like to put yourself forward as a candidate, please complete and return the attached documents to the school office by Tuesday 7th January 2020. Your nomination should be accompanied by a short personal statement which should include:

- evidence of the extent to which you possess the skills and experience the governing body desires;
- your commitment to undertake training to acquire or develop the skills to be an effective governor;
- if seeking re-election, details of your contribution to the work of the governing body during their previous term of office; and
- how you plan to contribute to the future work of the governing body.

If it is necessary for there to be an election, I will contact you to let you know about the arrangements. If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will be held on Tuesday 14th January and you will be sent a voting paper. You may return the ballot paper either via your child or by post.

Yours sincerely

Pip Blythe

Head teacher

Enclosed: Nomination form, Eligibility Self Declaration Form



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