



9<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS FOR FEDERATION

Dear Parent and Career or Breakspeare and Meadow Wood Schools,

Breakspeare School and Meadow Wood School will have a new governing board for their Federation. The Federation governing board will start their work on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

There are 2 vacancies for parent governors on **Breakspeare and Meadow Wood Schools' Federation governing body; one from Meadow Wood School and one from Breakspeare School**. If you would like to stand for election please complete and return the attached form to the school office **by Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 12 o'clock**. You will need to ask another parent of a pupil at the school to sign the form.

Please be aware that regulations require everyone elected or appointed to a governing body to undergo a pre-appointment check which may include a criminal background check. This is to ensure the safety of the pupils. If you are elected and you subsequently decline to undergo such a check, you will disqualify yourself.

Please give brief details about yourself (**not more than 80 words**) on the form. If an election is needed these details will be copied and sent to all parents with the ballot papers. **Please note that the 80 word limit will be strictly enforced and result in additional wording being deleted.**

If the number of nominations is the same as or less than the number of vacancies, then the people nominated will be deemed elected unopposed. If there are not enough nominations, the governing body has the duty to appoint parent governors to fill the remaining vacancies.

The governing bodies of Breakspeare and Meadow Wood School will decide the term of office for a parent governor in their full governing body meetings. This is likely to be 4 years. If you are elected you may serve the full term of office even if your child leaves the school before your term of office finishes.

If an election is necessary we will send you a ballot paper on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Only parents of children registered at the school are entitled to stand or vote in the election. A parent who is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in a school year or is an elected member of the LA may **not stand** for election. Each parent will be sent one ballot paper regardless of how many children they have at the school, and each parent will have one vote per vacancy. The ballot will be secret and you will be notified of the result as soon as possible afterwards.

In most cases it will be obvious whether you are a parent. For the purpose of the election of a parent governor, a parent is:

Parents (including carers) of registered pupils at the school. "Parent" is defined for the purposes of the Constitution Regulations as including "any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18". It includes a person who the child lives with or who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. The reference in the definition must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.

If you have any questions about whether you are eligible to stand or vote in the election or about anything else in this letter, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Merja Paakkonen

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Interim Executive Head teacher for Breakspeare and Meadow Wood Schools

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