

Harestock Primary School

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Tuesday 21st September 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

VACANCY FOR 1 SCHOOL GOVERNOR

We have vacancies for a ONE governor on Harestock Primary School's Governing Body and invite members of the local community to apply. We have ONE Co-opted governor vacancy.

The School has always aimed for a partnership with the community as it undoubtedly brings great benefits to the children and School. Being a Governor is a great opportunity to contribute to the development of the next generation, meet new people, and use or develop skills and experience.

WHAT WE DO

The Governing Body meets 12 times a year (in the evening), attends school events and visits the school regularly during the day. Our main tasks are to:

- a) ensure that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- b) hold the Head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- c) oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

They work closely with the Headteacher and other school staff to carry out a range of legal responsibilities including:

- planning the school's future direction and making sure that the school provides for all its pupils and keeps them safe
- being accountable for the performance of the school
- making decisions on the school's budget and staffing
- making sure the National Curriculum is taught and deciding how the school can encourage pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

WHAT WE NEED

No experience of schools or governance is required as full training is provided by Hampshire County Council. On our Governing Body we have a mix of men and women, ages, backgrounds, skills and experience. Most important to us at the moment is that the new Governors believe in the importance of education and our role as a local school, can work in a team, and have sufficient time to devote to Governor duties*.

We are particularly looking for skills or experience of the following:

- Health and safety
- Business
- Leadership
- Links with the local community

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

At Harestock Primary School safeguarding our children is of paramount importance. Accordingly, for the protection of our children, all governor appointments are subject to an interview, references and an enhanced DBS check. Please note that there are also statutory qualification and disqualification regulations that relate to governing bodies**.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please go to <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/governors/volunteer> and there is an online application and return by Friday 25th September.

If you think you might be interested in applying or want to find out more about being a governor, more information is available:

- By contacting our Head Teacher, Mrs Sankey, or the Chair of Governors, Linda Gregory, by leaving your name and number at the School office 01962 881026 or emailing chairofgovernors@harestock.co.uk;
- Via the information for prospective governors on the Hampshire County Council website. You will find video, e-learning and written information on the site and all of these will provide you with further details about the role.

Yours sincerely

Governors of Harestock Primary School

***Governors must be able to attend at least one evening meeting in person each half term; have time to read the papers in advance of meetings; be able to carry out at least one daytime visit to the school during the day through the year; and be able to contribute to the general work of the Governing Body.**

**** The following explains the qualification and disqualification requirements. The following text summarises the qualification and disqualification regulations which can be seen in full on our website. Please seek advice if you think you may be affected.**

A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of their election or appointment. A registered pupil of the school cannot be a governor. A person cannot hold more than one governorship at the same school.

A Person is disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a governor or associate member if they:

- *have failed to attend meetings for six months;*
- *are bankrupt;*
- *are subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under companies legislation or an order concerning insolvency;*
- *have been removed from the office of trustee for a charity on grounds of misconduct or mismanagement or from being concerned in the management or control of any body;*
- *are included in the list of those considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children;*

- *are subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of Education Act 2002;*
- *are disqualified from working with children or from registration for child minding or providing day care;*
- *have 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 or since becoming a governor;*
- *have received a prison sentence of 2.5 years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor;*
- *have at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more;*
- *have been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor;*
- *refuse to make an application for a criminal records certificate.*

In addition, the following disqualification criteria apply for the categories of governor listed below.

*A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a **parent governor** of a school if the person -*

(a) is an elected member of the local authority; or

(b) is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any twelve consecutive months.

*A person is disqualified from appointment as a **local authority governor** if the person is eligible to be a staff governor of the school.*

*A person is disqualified from nomination or appointment as a **partnership governor** of a school if the person is –*

(a) a parent of a registered pupil at the school;

(b) eligible to be a staff governor of the school;

(c) an elected member of the local authority; or

(d) employed by the local authority in connection with their education functions. This does not apply in the case of a person who is employed by a local authority in England under a contract of employment providing for the person to work wholly at a school or schools maintained by the local authority.