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**DEVORAN SCHOOL**

**WANTED – PARENT GOVERNOR**

**What are we looking for?**

At Devoran School, we aim to build a board comprising of people from all walks of life. Governors come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, characteristics, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the school and are the link between the school and the community it serves. A diverse governing board supports us in creating a culture of inclusion and helping pupils from all backgrounds to succeed.

A vacancy for a Parent Governor has arisen from October 2024.

**We want you**

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

* a child or children currently attending the school
* an interest in the performance of the school
* a desire to contribute to and represent the community
* an open and enquiring mind
* the ability to look at issues objectively
* the confidence to ask questions and join in debate
* a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
* the ability to work well with others
* time to spare which includes monitoring visits into school

If you match the above description, you may be the very person to become a Governor at Devoran School.

We want to encourage people from as many backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible to apply. Experience in finance, personnel, premises and/or health & safety would be particularly helpful, but everyone has something to offer.

**What can we offer?**

* A chance to develop skills in strategic management
* The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our school
* A sense of achievement in making a difference to our school
* The pleasure of helping students reach their potential

**What is the Governing Body’s Role?**

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

* setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement
* monitoring progress towards meeting these targets
* overseeing the school’s finances, making sure its money is well spent
* supporting and challenging the performance of the headteacher, acting as a 'critical friend'
* deciding policy and future development plans

A parent governor brings a parental perspective to the issues discussed: they are not a delegate and do not speak 'on behalf' of the parent body. The role and responsibilities of parent governors are no different from those of the other governors.

Further information on the role and responsibilities of the governing body can be found in the DfE [Maintained School Governance Guide](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/governance-in-maintained-schools).

The time commitment for the governor role will vary. However, all governors should aim to attend all meetings of the full board, which take place every half-term on Tuesday evenings from 5.30-7.30 pm. The term of office is 4 years. Preparation for meetings includes reading papers and preparing questions for senior leaders.

As well as attending meetings governors are also asked to look at specific areas of the school’s work in more detail and to come in to conduct monitoring visits.

New governors are provided with an induction, and everyone has access to further training to help build on existing skills or to develop new ones.

If you are interested, please complete the attached form with a brief description about yourself and why you would like to join the governing body, and return this via email to Julie Tayler, our governance professional, at **clerk@devoranschool.co.uk**

**Closing date for applications is midday Wednesday 23 October 2024**

Depending on the number of applications there may be an election process, which will be advised in due course. The Term of Office for the role will commence no earlier than 3rd December 2024.

**DEVORAN SCHOOL**

**Parent Governor Application Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Candidate Name |  |
| Candidate Address |  |
| Phone number: |  |
| Email:  |  |
| Candidate Statement | In this section, outline:* The skills and experience you have that the governing board requires
* Your commitment to undertaking training to acquire or develop the skills needed to be an effective governor
* If applicable, details of your contribution to the work of the governing board during your previous term of office
* How you plan to contribute to the future work of the board

Please note: this statement may be circulated to all parents if there are more applicants than parent governor vacancies and a ballot is needed. Maximum 350 words. |

I confirm that I:

* Am aged over 18
* Am not a current pupil at the school
* Am not the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, a debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or an undischarged sequestration
* Am not disqualified from being a company director and/or a charity trustee
* Have not been disqualified from holding office as a governor
* Have not been removed from office as an elected governor within the last 5 years
* Am not included in the list of those unsuitable to work with children or disqualified from working with children, barred from regulated activity and/or disqualified from registering for childminding or providing daycare
* Have not 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
* Have not received a prison sentence of 2 and a half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
* Have not at any time received a prison sentence of 5 years or more
* Have not been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor

If a **parent governor**, I also confirm that I am not:

* Am not an elected member of the local authority
* Am not paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in a year

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_