Yeading
Infant & Nursery School

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13th October 2026

Dear Parents

Can you help shape the future of our school?

We need parents of pupils registered at the school to make a difference in our school's community by volunteering to become **parent governors**.

Currently we have one parent governor vacancy on the governing board.

Your voice as a parent is very important to our school and it is vital that the governing board has good representation by our parents among its membership.

Information about the role

Once elected or appointed for a term of four years, a parent governor takes on the role of a school governor, a public volunteer. All governors are equal, no category of governor is any more important or influential than any other. Parent governors exercise a strategic parental voice on the governing board.

I have included a more detailed information on the role of governors with this letter. Please read this as it is important to understand the role, expectations and commitment before applying.

We are seeking parents who have a real willingness to help, who can listen carefully, read important documents, ask questions, attend training and be able to actively contribute at meetings.

If you can spare approximately ten hours or more a month then please consider nominating yourself for this interesting voluntary role.

What can you offer as a parent governor?

- Enthusiasm, time and commitment.
- Your local knowledge will be valuable: you will have a feel for what is important to people.
- Any professional or other skills you may have will be very helpful.
- An openness to learning and change, and wanting to make a difference.
- Governors also provide objectivity in debate and decision-making and can add further and different perspectives to school matters.

What are the benefits?

- Being a school governor is a privilege – you are a small but very important part in an educational system with a very long history.
- The knowledge that you have played a part in improving local children's education and supported the school's staff.
- A chance to develop new skills, to practice and strengthen existing ones, such as chairing a meeting, researching or leading on a key school issue.
- The opportunity to work as part of a team to make a real difference in the community.
- The opportunity to meet new people from all walks of life whom you probably would not have otherwise encountered.
- Knowing that the decisions you collectively make will have a huge impact on children's lives.

- You develop as a person and may even find that your experiences as a governor influence future career and life choices.

If you are interested in volunteering, here's what you should do ...

1) Please check that you are eligible to stand as a parent governor. The definition of "parent" includes:
   - all natural parents, whether they are married or not: and
   - any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person; and
   - "Parent" is defined 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 and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. The reference in the definition must be to someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.

   There are some criteria which can disqualify you from serving as any type of governor. This list is given in the nomination form. If you are applying, then you must confirm that you are not disqualified by those criteria.

2) Please nominate yourself by completing the attached nomination form.

3) ***Please ensure that your completed nomination form is returned to the school by*** **9am on Tuesday 3rd November 2026.** There is a Nomination Box in the school Reception area for the collection of nominations.

What happens after the nomination deadline has passed?
Any nominations received after the deadline will not be accepted.

If the school receives more nominations than there are vacancies, then we will hold an election and parents will be asked to take part in a secret ballot to vote for the candidate(s) they feel would be most suitable as a parent governor. The information you supply as part of your nomination will be circulated to parents to help them decide who to vote for. Your personal contact details will not be distributed. This is for governing board purposes only.

If the school receives the same amount of nominations as there are vacancies, then those nominees are deemed to be 'elected unopposed' and become parent governors without the need for an election.

If no parents nominate themselves by the deadline given above, then the governing board become responsible for appointing parent governors to fill the vacancies. If they can't find volunteers at our school then they may seek parent volunteers from other schools.

If an election needs to take place then I will inform all nominees personally, and all parents in writing, providing the details of how to vote and the deadline for doing so.

If there are any questions or you need further information, please let me know as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Rupinder Ahluwalia (Headteacher)
Yeading Infant & Nursery School

Attachments
- Parent Governor Nomination Form
- Information on the role of governors