

There is a vacancy for a parent governor on our school's governing board and I am writing to invite nominations to fill this vacancy.

The governing board has an extremely important role. They are responsible for the strategic direction of the school, working in partnership with the headteacher, promoting high standards of educational achievement and ensuring our resources are used to maximum impact. Governors individually have no power but when they act collectively, as a corporate body instead of as individuals, they are very powerful.

Parent governors are a vital part of the school's governing board. They also help to ensure the board is connected with the parents at the school.

In looking to fill this vacancy the governors have identified the following skills, experience and attributes that they feel would help strengthen the governing board of George Stephenson High School:

- be prepared to contribute to discussions and offer challenge and support to the headteacher
- have an interest in education and the welfare of children
- be willing to learn and attend relevant training
- have good interpersonal, teamwork and communication skills
- have a respect for confidentiality
- be committed to equality of opportunity
- be willing to fulfil their role with energy and enthusiasm and be able to commit to attend governors' meetings regularly.

All governors receive training to help them carry out their role– we expect all our governors to complete induction training.

Southgate, Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 6SA

T: 0191 216 1115

E: enquiries@gshs.org.uk

W: www.gshs.org.uk

Headteacher: Peter Douthwaite BSc (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Kathryn Williams BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Louise Dunn BA (Hons)



George Stephenson High School

Nominations must be from parents with children at the school on the day that nominations close. The enclosed sheet summarises the disqualification criteria to serve as a governor. Anyone standing for election must certify that they are not disqualified for any reason. All governors must apply for a DBS check. The school will arrange that.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete and sign the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school office no later than 12 noon on Monday 14th September. You can nominate yourself. Please include a few details about yourself and why you would like to become a governor. This will then be circulated to all parents to help them decide who to vote for if an election is needed. You do not have to complete this section, but if you don't you may put yourself at a disadvantage if there is an election.

An election, by secret ballot, will be held if more nominations are received than the number of vacancies. If an election is needed details of the procedure will be sent to all parents.

Application forms are available from the school website and school reception.

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