Dear Parents

**ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS: NOMINATIONS SOUGHT**

Three vacancies have arisen for elected Parent Governors to join the governing body of Hardenhuish School in January 2024.

Governors play an essential strategic and policy-making role within Hardenhuish without getting involved in the day-to-day running of the school.  This is a voluntary role but hugely rewarding when governors embrace the workload and challenges.  Governors serve for four years, and Parent Governors can continue to the end of their term of office even if their child or children have left the school.

Parent governors are parents or those with parental responsibility elected by parents and are vital to our governing body.  They share equally with other governors the responsibility for carrying out the governing body's wide range of responsibilities.   You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor, the role is that of a typical parent bringing a parent’s perspective to the running of the governing body and the school.  It is essential you put the interests of all the young people in the school above those of your own children.

Governors have three core functions:

* Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
* Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
* Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

To work effectively, it is necessary to set aside time to prepare for meetings, for visiting the school and for undertaking training**.**There are meetings once each term for the whole governing body and for the various committees.  Governors should expect to sit on at least one committee – the areas covered range from staffing to curriculum, finance, school uniform and special needs.  In addition to attending meetings there are other tasks such as recruitment and developing links with year groups and curriculum areas which it is desirable to take on.

To find out more about whether being a governor at this school is for you please contact me via ClerktoGovernors@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.ukto arrange an informal conversation.  We would strongly encourage anyone interested in standing for election to seek more information before applying.

If you would like to put your name forward, please complete the attached nomination form and write a brief personal statement (200 words maximum) to support your nomination.  The statements of all candidates will be circulated to all parents for voting.  The deadline for submission is Friday 1st December 2023.

Further information regarding the role of governor and the work of the governing body can be accessed via the governor page of the school website: [www.hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk/our-school/governors/](http://www.hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk/our-school/governors/)

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Martin

Chair of Governors, Hardenhuish School

**Parent Governor Nomination Form**

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| **NOMINATION FORM****Election for a parent governor forHardenhuish School** |
| Name: |  |
| Address: |   |
|  |
| Children in Year(s): |  |
|  |
| **Why I would like to be a parent governor (max 200 words):****I have read the list of disqualifications (overleaf) and** **am willing and eligible to stand for election as a** **parent governor at Hardenhuish School** |
| **Full name:**  |  |
| **Date:**  |  |

**QUALIFICATIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Schedule 4 (regulation 17) of the Constitution Regulations covers the qualifications and disqualifications of governors.

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

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor of a school if, in summary, that person:

• is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order; an interim bankruptcy restrictions order; debt relief restrictions order; an interim debt relief restrictions order; or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;

• is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986; a disqualification order under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)

• has been removed from the office of trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under

section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body

• is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people

• is barred from any regulated activity relating to children

• is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the

Education Act 2002 or section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008

• is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care

• is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State

• subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as a governor or since becoming a governor

• subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has received a prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as a governor

* Subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
* has been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the five years ending with the date immediately preceding appointment/election or since appointment or election as a governor
* refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Baring Service for a criminal records certificate
* has been removed as an elected governor from the governing body during their term of office; they are disqualified from serving or continuing to serve as a school governor for five years from the date of their removal – not just as the school they have been removed from, but any school\*.

\*From 1st May 2017 any person who was elected as a parent or staff governor and was removed during their term of office will be disqualified from becoming or continuing to serve as a governor for 5 years from the date of their removal.

**Anyone proposed or serving as a governor who is disqualified for one of these reasons must notify the clerk to the governing body.**