



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Matthew Brown BA(Hons) DMS(Ed)

Blackfen School for Girls,
Blackfen Road,
Sidcup, Kent.
DA15 9NU

T: 020 8303 1887

F: 020 8298 1656

E: admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk
www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

10th November 2017

BLACKFEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS GOVERNING BODY - ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

You will probably be aware that, over recent years, there has been a trend nationally to encourage parents and, indeed, all members of the public to become involved in the governance of schools. Every school, including this one, has a governing body, made up of parents of children in the school, people who have an interest in local affairs, education and the community, the staff of the school and the Head Teacher.

Allowing for my specific duties as Head Teacher, school governors have a considerable range of responsibilities relating to the conduct of the school. Governors are encouraged to take part in the work of committees of the governing body, allowing them to develop personal interests and expertise. The Local Authority has a responsibility for providing support and training for governors and there is a full programme of activities, with particular support for newly appointed governors. If you would like to informally discuss the role of a Governor at Blackfen School before you decide whether to put forward a nomination, please contact the Head Teacher's PA, Liz Cull and she can arrange for you to meet, without commitment on either side, with one or two members of the Governing Body.

The term of office for all governors is four years and a parent is not required to resign as a governor if his or her child leaves the school within that period. This school has currently **ONE** vacancy for parent governors and all parents, if they currently have a child registered at the school are eligible for nomination as a parent governor. Ordinary meetings of the governing body take place at least once a term, and there are also meetings of committees as necessary. It is hoped however that members will lend support to the school on other occasions and become acquainted with educational issues as they affect us in school.

New governor appointments are made subject to a check against the list of teachers and others banned or with restrictions imposed on them from working with children and young people. All new governor appointments will be made subject to completion of a Disclosure and Barring Check. In addition, evidence of identity will be required.

I have been asked to point out that a parent governor is not a delegate and therefore is not obliged to vote in accordance with the views of the parent body. All members of the governing body vote according to their own consciences and points of view.

Following Bexley's procedure, I am writing to you now to invite you to nominate a parent, who may be your partner, yourself or any other parent who you have ensured is willing to stand for election. It would be helpful if a brief statement, of no more than 100 words, could be included stating the nominee's interest in the school. This will be used in the event of a vote being necessary. **PLEASE LET ME HAVE ANY NOMINATION BY NOON ON FRIDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2017.**

I will write to you again, inviting you to vote by secret ballot, if the number of nominations for parent governors exceeds the number of vacancies. Otherwise, any nominee will automatically become an elected parent governor of the school's governing body. In any case I will write to you to inform you of the outcome of these arrangements. If insufficient nominations are received the governing body has a duty to appoint appropriate parent governors to fill any vacancy.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Brown
HEAD TEACHER

