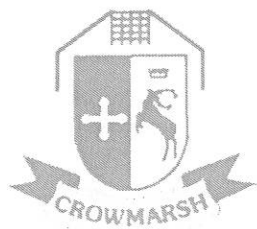


Crowmarsh Gifford C. E. Primary School

Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8EN

Faith ♦ Service ♦ Integrity ♦ Responsibility ♦ Truth ♦ Excellence



Headteacher: Mrs. F. Barton

Deputy Headteacher: Mr. A. Silvester

Tel/Fax: 01491 836785

Email: office.3200@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.crowmarshgiffordprimary.com

21st September 2017

Dear Parents,

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR

We currently have a Parent Governor vacancy and would like to invite nominations for this. As many of you may already know, the governing body has an extremely important role: it is responsible for working strategically in partnership with the headteacher and staff to identify the most important aspects of the school that need to be improved, approving plans to achieve this and ensuring progress. Governors individually have no power but when governors act collectively as a corporate team they are very powerful, as a corporate body not as individuals. All governors receive training to help them carry out their role. Oxfordshire Governor Services runs special induction courses for new governors – we expect all our governors to attend this training.

Parents or anyone who has parental responsibility for a pupil on the school roll at the time of the election can stand for election. You can nominate yourself or someone else for election and can vote in the election. Please see the attached fact sheet for further information.

Parent governors, like all governors, will be most effective if they bring relevant skills and experience, such as financial expertise or experience in human resources, as well as the ability to work as part of a team.

All nominations should be sent in to the school office by 9.00 am on Friday 29th September. Every nomination must be signed by the candidate, stating that they are willing to stand. Please also send in a few words about yourself and your interest in becoming a governor. The maximum you can write is 75/100 words.

If more than one nomination is received, an election will be held and details of this will be sent out during week commencing 2nd October. The first governing body meeting of this school year will be held on Monday 9th October at 7.30pm in school. We hope that our new governor will be able to attend this meeting so if you are nominated please put the date in your diary now!

If you would like to know a little more about becoming a parent governor, please let the school office know.

Please think about taking on the role, or suggesting someone who will do it well. We need committed parent governors to make the governing body as effective as it can be.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F Barton
Headteacher

PARENT GOVERNOR FACT SHEET

The governing body consists of parent governors, staff governor, the headteacher, co-opted governors, foundation governors and LA governor. Our school has three parent governors. Parent governors have all the same powers and duties as other governors.

The governing body meets twice a term (i.e. autumn, spring and summer, usually in the evening. If possible every governor joins at least one of our committees. These are responsible for different aspects of the school such as Resources or Curriculum and Standards. Committees meet twice a term (i.e. autumn, spring and summer) at times which suit the committee members. We also invite governors to come into school occasionally during the school day so they can understand how the school operates and see improvements for themselves.

To be eligible to stand for election as a parent governor you have to have parental responsibility for a pupil at the school. Having "parental responsibility" is not limited to biological parents, but will cover you if you are a step-parent, foster parent, grandparent bringing up the child, or permanent partner of the child's biological parent. A few people cannot be school governors; those who have been made bankrupt or who have been in prison for certain offences may not serve for at least three years afterwards. School staff are not eligible to stand as parent governors if they are employed for 500 hours or more per year. If you have any doubts as to your eligibility on any of these grounds, please contact the school office/headteacher.

A candidate for parent governor post must have a child on the school roll at the time the election is held. However, parent governors do not have to resign if their children leave the school before their term of office has expired.

The Governors' Handbook emphasises the importance of the skills, experience and personal attitudes brought by each governor. In addition, it is essential that all new governors attend the Induction Course provided by Governor Services for newly appointed governors so that you are fully aware of your role and contribute effectively to the work of the governing body team.

NOMINATION FORM

Election for a parent governor for Crowmarsh Gifford C. E. Primary School

Children in Year(s):

I am willing and eligible to stand for election as a parent governor at Crowmarsh Gifford C. E. School.

I confirm that I am able to fulfil the role including by attending meetings as required.

(Please ensure that you have read the rules regarding the eligibility to become a governor which you should have received with this nomination form).

Full name:

Signed:

Date:

DEFINITION OF A PARENT

(The Education Act 1996: Section 576 defines "Parent" to include):

- ◆ 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 any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person

(The Education Act 1996: Section 576 (1), (3) and (4), read together with the Education Act 2002: Section 212(2), gives a definition of "parent")

- ◆ "Parent" is defined for the purposes of the Constitution Regulations 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.