

# St John Evangelist Catholic School

Duncan Street  
Islington  
London N1 8BL

020 7226 1314  
office@stjohnevangelist.islington.sch.uk  
www.stjohnevangelist.islington.sch.uk



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

## **PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES**

We currently have a vacancy for two Parent Governors on the School Governing Board.

School has always aimed for a partnership with parents, which undoubtedly brings great benefits to the children. One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor. The governing board's main tasks are to ensure that pupils receive high quality education, to plan for future development and improvement, and to support the school. Whilst specialist knowledge or relevant experience is useful, common sense and willingness to give time are key requisites. We have a fact sheet about becoming a governor we can send you, if you would like further information and you can find out more on the NGA website at this link <http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx>.

Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the team and play a vital role in ensuring the governing board is aware of the views of parents and the local community. We feel sure that there are parents prepared to take on this important role and give their time and commitment to helping us to continue to improve the school's performance. We very much hope that parents from all the many communities in the school would be interested in standing.

Anyone who has parental responsibility for a pupil on the school roll at the time of the election can stand for election\*; may nominate someone for election; and may vote in the election.

The school office should receive all nominations by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 by 12:00pm. You do not need a seconder, and you can nominate yourself. Every nomination, however, must be signed by the candidate stating that s/he is willing to stand. Candidates are also asked to write a few words (50-100) about themselves and why they wish to become a governor. Candidates are unable to withdraw from the election once ballot papers have been circulated.

Ballot papers and election statements will then be sent home via school post on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

The closing date for the return of ballot papers is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 12:00pm. They will be counted at 2pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and all candidates are invited to attend. The ballot is secret; you may send or post the ballot paper back in a sealed envelope addressed to the returning officer.

The returning officer for this election is Daniel Beazer (Chair of Governors).

If you would like to know a little more about becoming a parent governor, you are welcome to speak to myself or Justin Portess who is at present a parent governor.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Beazer  
Chair of Governors

\* **Parents who work at the school for 500 hours per year or are elected members of Islington Council, are not eligible to be parent governors, but are eligible to vote in parent governor elections**

# The Governing Board of St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School

## BACKGROUND

School governors represent the largest volunteer force in the country with approximately 1% of the adult population serving in this capacity at any one time. The governing Board of St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School has 14 governor positions of which 2 are for parent governors. Parent governors are elected by their fellow parents and are vital to a governing Board because they ensure that the other governors are kept in touch with the concerns and issues of most importance to our parents.

## CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution to the school and the education of its children. They will contribute to the effective day-to-day running of the school and have an effective input toward the educational achievements of its pupils.

A governing Board's overriding responsibility is to work in partnership with the head teacher to promote continuous improvement in the performance of the school. This involves the establishment of a development plan, the setting of challenging but achievable targets and the interpretation of information to assess progress and determine appropriate action. Typically, a governor's duties will average at around 6 hours of spare time each month. Aligned to its improvement role, the governing Board is there to be a 'critical friend' who can provide the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of both the head teacher and the school.

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Islington values the voluntary contribution of its governors and in return aims to provide a high-quality training and support service. Governors are able to access this support in a variety of ways including training courses and a termly briefing which is sent to all school governors to keep them informed of developments in education policy and current best practice. All new governors are expected to attend the DFE Induction Programme during their first year. As we are a Catholic School, the Diocese of Westminster also offers a number of training opportunities throughout the school year for Parent Governors.

## BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR

Being a parent governor can be stimulating, enjoyable and rewarding. If you have the enthusiasm and desire to become closely involved in the running of the school, then please consider putting yourself forward for vacancies that arise. Parent Governors are an important component in achieving an effective and well-balanced governing Board.

# NOMINATION FORM

## Election of a parent governor for St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School Autumn Term 2020

Full name of NOMINEE (BLOCK CAPITALS):

ADDRESS and POSTCODE:

Parent of: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name of PROPOSER (BLOCK CAPITALS) if not proposing self:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent of: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a few details about yourself and the reasons why you wish to become a parent governor (between 50-100 words):

**All candidates, please ensure that you have read and signed the declaration of eligibility overleaf.**

**THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

## **DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE ON A SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD**

In some circumstances, a person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a school governor. A person may not be a governor:

- if already holding a governorship at St John Evangelist Catholic Primary School;
- if under 18 years of age.

Also, people who

- can be compulsorily detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- are bankrupt or disqualified, or are subject to a disqualification undertaking, under the Company Directors Disqualification Act;
- are subject to a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, or disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002;
- are subject to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986;
- have been removed from a charity trusteeship by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement;
- are included in the list of teachers or workers prohibited or restricted from working with children or young persons (currently named List 99);
- when screened by the Criminal Records Bureau are found to have a conviction which would result in them being unsuitable for working with children;
- have been disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee in any school by an Independent Schools Tribunal or the Secretary of State;
- have in the previous five years (or since becoming a governor) been sentenced to three months or more in prison (whether this was suspended or not) without the option of a fine;
- have in the previous 20 years been sentenced to imprisonment for two and a half years or more;
- have at any time been sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more;
- have been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to, or since, appointment or election as a governor.

may not serve as governors.

**Would you please confirm that you are willing and eligible to stand by signing the declaration below.**

**I declare that I am the parent or guardian of a pupil registered at the school and am not disqualified from serving on a school governing Board. If I become disqualified I will give notice of the fact the clerk to the governing Board.**

**I will agree to a Criminal Record Bureau check.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_