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**Parent Governor Vacancy**

Dear Parent,

I am writing to advise you that there is a vacancy for a parent governor on the school’s Governing Body and to invite parents who are interested in taking up this role to put their names forward, or to nominate another parent. If you nominate a fellow parent please ensure the parent countersigns the attached nomination paper.

Please note on the reverse of the nomination form there is a Declaration of Eligibility which lists the criteria for qualifications and disqualification. Please ensure the declaration is signed by the nominee.

The timescale for electing the new governor is as follows:

* Nominations to the Clerk to the Governors by 5th October 2020.
* The election will be held on 23rd October at 12 noon

If the number of nominations received are equal to or less than the number of vacancies there will be no need to hold a ballot. If a ballot is necessary one voting paper per parent will be sent to you via your child.

For further information please contact Karen Williams, Clerk to the Governors at karenwilliams@marydeans.plymouth.sch.uk

**What is the role of school governors and governing bodies?**

Governing bodies are responsible for a wide range of matters, which include ensuring that pupils receive high quality education and planning for the future development and improvement of the school. Parent governors play an important role as members of the governing body and are welcomed as valued members of the team. The governing body works together – governors do not make decisions individually.

Governors will support and, at the same time, challenge heads by gathering views, asking questions and deciding what is best for the school. Governors make important decisions on how a school will be run and have to stand by their collective decision. The governing body is answerable to parents, learners and the wider community.

**Governing bodies comprise of various types of governor. The governing body will include:**

* Parent governors elected by other parents at the school.
* Staff governors elected by their colleagues.
* Local Authority appointed governors.
* Co-opted governors appointed by the governing body.
* Foundation governors

**Commitment**

We hold nine meetings per year, usually at 6.30pm and should last no more than 2 hours. Governors are encouraged to visit school to learn more about the way the school works.

**What will you gain as a school governor?**

* The opportunity to make a real difference and the chance to contribute to the good of the community, leading to real satisfaction and a sense of achievement. You will gain an understanding of the decision making process of school governing bodies and an awareness of the education system as a whole.
* Working as school governor will give the opportunity to work with a wide variety of people and pupils from a variety of social, cultural and religious backgrounds.
* You will develop new skills and strengthen existing ones. You will be offered training provided by the Local Authority on various aspects of the governor role.

**Appointment of School Governors – Nomination and Declaration of Eligibility**

I wish to stand for election as a parent governor of ***Mary Dean’s C of E Primary School***

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you are nominating another parent please sign here and ensure that the nominee signs the declaration on the reverse.

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of Eligibility**

I declare that I am not disqualified from serving as a school governor and that:

* I am aged 18 or over at the date of this election or appointment
* I do not already hold a governorship of the same school
* I am not subject to a bankruptcy restriction order, an interim bankruptcy restriction order, a debt relief order or an interim debt relief order
* I have not had my estate sequestrated and sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
* I have not been removed from the office of a charity trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commissioners or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement or, under section 7 of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, from being concerned in the management or control of any body
* I am not included in the list of teachers and workers with children or young persons whose employment is prohibited or restricted
* I am not disqualified from being the proprietor of any independent school or for being a teacher or other employee in the school
* I am not disqualified from working with children
* I have not, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, received a sentence of imprisonment, suspended or otherwise, for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine
* I have not, in the twenty year prior to becoming a governor, been convicted as aforesaid of any offence and had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than two and a half years.
* I have not, at any time, had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than five years
* I have not been fined, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, for causing a nuisance or disturbance on education premises
* I am not subject to a disqualification order under the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000

I am willing to serve as a parent governor should I be elected. I am not disqualified from serving as a school governor and agree that the information I give on this form can be recorded and used by the Governor Development Team. I give permission for an application to be made to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a DBS certificate. If I become disqualified I will notify the Clerk to the Governing Body.

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

Please add a personal statement below in support of your nomination:

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***This nomination paper should be emailed to Karen Williams, Clerk to the Governors at*** karenwilliams@marydeans.plymouth.sch.uk ***or passed into the school office.***