



Parkside Community Primary School

Beechwood Lane
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 8QQ

Headteacher: Richard Blakeley
Deputy Head: Rachel Townshend
Chair of Governors: Siobhan Murphy

Telephone: 01435 864577
Fax: 01435 865523
e-mail: office@parksideprimary.org

19th July 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Governor Vacancies

The Governing Board at Parkside and Parkside Preschool is responsible for the conduct of the school and promoting high standards of education. The Board carries out its role by setting the vision and ethos of the school and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving these goals. It does this by building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community, by both supporting and constructively challenging the school, and by ensuring accountability and compliance. Our current Governing Board is made up of parent governors, staff governors and co-opted governors (individuals chosen by the Governing Board who have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school). This diversity ensures school decisions are made by people with a wide range of experience and views.

Two vacancies have arisen for co-opted governors on our Governing Board. Co-opted governors can include parents or carers with children at Parkside. Before you decide to nominate someone, or indeed stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Governors do not need to be experts in the field of education. They **do** need to be interested in Parkside school and actively want to improve the education of all our pupils. We need two governors who have basic English, maths and IT skills; the willingness to learn; the ability to work as a team and take collective responsibility for decisions; the ability to analyse and review issues objectively as well as the ability to question and challenge. But above all, we need committed governors who have the time and willingness to get involved.

As a Governing Board we meet 6 times a year (once a term). In addition, governors have other individual responsibilities, e.g. the Finance & Premises Committee,

Working together to achieve individually



safeguarding or aligning to areas of the School Development Plan. Regular focused visits are part of the governor's monitoring role – ensuring that the national curriculum is being delivered and pupils are receiving the best possible education. Governors must commit to training courses when necessary and from time to time there are opportunities to attend INSET training days. Governors will also be invited to special events and services throughout the school year.

In return, Parkside's Governing Board is committed to providing its governors with a comprehensive, structured induction; access to quality training (online, external and inhouse); an experienced governor as mentor and enough tea and biscuits to fill your boots.

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at Parkside, please email Richard Blakeley (office@parksideprimary.org) with your contact details.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

Siobhan Murphy

Chair of Governors