



KEW RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

37 Courtlands Avenue, Kew. TW9 4ES
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6th March 2015

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Dear Parents,

The governing body is responsible for both the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards. It carries out its role by setting the vision for the school in partnership with the headteacher and senior leadership team and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving these objectives. 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. The governing body of our school is made up of parent governors, staff governors and co-opted governors.

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to consider standing for this vacancy or to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If we receive more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held. Nominations are now open and forms are available from Lisa in the school office. Elections will take place in the second week of the Summer term (w/b April 20th).

Before deciding to put your name forward or nominate a fellow parent, it is important to understand a bit more about what is involved. Governors don't need to be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and in the welfare of our children and the time and willingness to get involved. The skills you have can be very useful to the governing body. At the moment the governing body is looking for someone to play an active role on the Curriculum and Achievement Committee (CAC). That person would ideally have a keen interest in the school curriculum and data analysis skills. The main role of the CAC committee is to support and constructively challenge the school to achieve the best possible progress and attainment of the student population.

Governors also need what are known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All governors are expected to be able to read straightforward budget reports and data on school standards. Utmost confidentiality about all matters pertaining to and discussed at committee meetings is expected.

The new parent governor would be expected to:

- attend the 6 meetings per year of the full governing body (all held during term time)
- sit on the Curriculum & Achievement Committee and attend the 6 CAC meetings per year
- visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least twice per year
- visit the school informally
- attend beneficial training courses, and be part of (a) working group(s)
- coordinate Parent Voice sessions at least twice per year

In return, our governing body commits to:

- provide you with a structured induction
- provide access to quality training
- provide you with an experienced governor as mentor
- offer you a rewarding and enriching opportunity to grow as an individual, while making an invaluable contribution to the education of your child and indeed the whole school population.

The term of any governor is four years and takes dedication and commitment, but likewise is very rewarding and gives valuable insight to the overall workings of our education system. If you are interested in becoming a governor and would like to know more, please email governors@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk.

We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Sabina Regan

Chair of the Governing Body