



THE GRANGE SCHOOL

Mr V Murray – Headteacher

January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

THE GRANGE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD – ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

There are currently two vacancies for governors directly elected by the parents and I am therefore writing to invite nominations. No formal qualifications or previous education experience are required; you just need common sense, time, enthusiasm but overall, a commitment to working as part of a team to make a difference for all the children at our school. Being a school governor can provide an opportunity to develop a wide range of transferable skills. As a guide, we have four meetings each term in the early evening and would also hope governors visit the school during the day a couple of times a year. We understand that people have lots of demand on their time, so may not make all the meetings but we would hope that they can attend most.

The term of office is four years. There is a full package of training and support for new governors. A parent or carer whose child leaves the school may continue as a parent governor until the end of their term of office if he or she so wishes.

We are keen to recruit parents and carers coming from 'all walks of life' and representing all groups in our school community.

In helping decide whether it is for you, some of our current Parent Governors have made the points below:

"I had considered becoming a governor for some time before I plucked up the courage to apply. Not having a background in education or the public sector, I wasn't sure what I could offer to the role.

2 years ago, I took the leap and decided to apply for the role of Parent Governor at The Grange, and I am so glad I did. Being a Governor has given me an opportunity to work with a fantastic group of people from all backgrounds who have one aim in mind - the welfare and education of our children.

The meetings are friendly yet informative and are always focused on the children, there are a few acronyms to learn that you may not be familiar with, but the rest of the governors are very helpful and will answer any questions should you get stuck. I know it's a cliché but "there are no stupid questions". I have gained so much more confidence in the role over the last 2 years, and this has had a knock-on effect on my day to day job. So just by giving a little bit of my time each month, I am gaining so much more.

The Grange is such a huge part of our community, like most schools it has its challenges, but I am proud to be part of such a fantastic school." (Parent Governor)

"Being a parent governor has given me the opportunity to see how the school is really run from the inside out. We see the strategic direction that the school leaders have, as well as being able to use our own knowledge of what we see from a parent perspective. There really is no better way to challenge and support than from within." (Parent Governor)

If you would like further information about the role, please contact myself, or the Chair of Governors, by contacting the School Office by email (office@grange.bucks.sch.uk)

Parents or carers who are nominated for election must be proposed and seconded in writing, with nominations being signed by the proposer and seconder; the person nominated must also state in writing, that he or she is willing to stand for election. Those eligible to stand are the parents or carers of students who are currently registered at this school. The proposer and seconder must also have a child currently in attendance at the school. A person who works at the school for more than 500 hours in a consecutive twelve-month period or who is an elected member of the Local Authority, is not eligible to be a parent governor.

Nominations should be sent to me within the next two school weeks that is before the closing date for nominations, which is Friday 7 February 2025. If there are only two parents or carers nominated, they will of course be elected unopposed but if there are more candidates than vacancies, a postal ballot will be held.

The ballot will be entirely secret and a further letter about the arrangements will be sent to you. All parents whose child/children attend this school will be entitled to vote in the postal ballot and voting will be based on one vote per parent/carer per place available.

If it proves impossible to fill the vacancy, the Governing Board has the right to make an appointment to fill the required number of parent governor places on the Governing Board. If the need to do this arises, the Governing Board would first consider appointing a parent or carer who has a child on roll at the school, followed by consideration of parents of former students, and finally parents of a school-aged child not necessarily a registered student at this school.

Please note that governors will be required to complete a Declaration Form to confirm they are not disqualified from being a governor.

Prospective governors should also note that the school has a Close Personal Relationships Policy and therefore they should not become a governor if they have a close personal relationship with a member of staff at the same school.

Parents may be interested in the overall constitution of the Governing Board, which is as follows:

- 1 local authority governor nominated by Bucks CC and appointed by the Governing Board
- 5 co-opted governors appointed by the Governing Board as a whole
- 3 parent governors
 - 1 staff governor, elected by other staff at the school
 - 1 headteacher
 - 2 foundation governors/partnership governors/associate members

The name of the successful candidate will be made available as soon as the appointment has been finalised.

I enclose a tear-off slip for use in the nominating procedure for parent governors, which parents may find useful, but a separate nomination letter is just as acceptable. Please return the slip or letter **by Friday 7 February 2025**.

Yours faithfully



**Mr V Murray
Headteacher**

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THE GRANGE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD – ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

I wish to nominate for the position of parent governor.

Signed:..... **Date:**.....

Seconded:..... **Date:**.....

I am prepared to accept this nomination

Date:.....

Please return to the Headteacher by Friday 7 February 2025.

Please will candidates include information about themselves consisting of **no more than 200 words**, for distribution to parents.

