



## Badgerbrook Primary School Governors

### Join us as a parent governor

We are looking to appoint additional school governors at Badgerbrook Primary School and currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. This leaflet is to invite you to consider joining us, give you some information about the role, and let you know how to express your interest in joining us.

#### **Why become a governor?**

You've already made a great choice in choosing Badgerbrook Primary School for your child. As a governor you will be supporting the school to be the very best it can be in all aspects of the school's purpose; learning, achieving and celebrating together.

It is an enormously rewarding role. You will develop a wealth of knowledge about how things are carried out in school and will have a direct impact on the quality of education and the daily experience of all the children at the school. You will also develop your own transferable leadership and governance skills.

#### **Who are the governors and what skills do they need?**

The governors represent everyone who has an interest in the school, staff, the local authority, people in the community, and of course parents. Governors are all volunteers. We all have very different backgrounds, but share a passion for supporting Badgerbrook Primary School. Our aim is for the school to succeed and therefore strive to ensure the children and staff reach their full potential in a happy, safe and caring environment. Governors do not need any specific experience in education, or otherwise, to be effective governors. However, we do all have different skills that help us to support and challenge the school to be the best it can be.

These include;

- honesty, integrity and openness
- the ability to question and listen
- a commitment to learn, about the school and about the role. (Full training in all aspects of the role is available, some of it is compulsory).
- you also need to be a person of discretion and respect the confidentiality that inevitably comes with the role.

### **What is the role of a governor?**

We have a strategic rather than operational role in helping the school run effectively.

The 3 core functions are;

- To ensure the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the school leadership team to account for the performance of the school, its staff and pupils;
- Overseeing financial decisions to ensure that money is well spent.

### **How much time is involved?**

Normally, once you are elected (or appointed) you will remain as a governor for 4 years. All governors (Full Governing Board) meet once a school term. You will also join a sub-committee that might also meet termly. You will need to prepare for these meetings by reading any associated papers which are available 7 days before the meeting. These usually include, reports from the head teacher and staff on how the school is performing, feedback on new initiatives, financial reports, policies for approval and recommendations to inform our decision making. You may also need to visit the school once a term to get to know how things are done there.

In the beginning there can be a lot to learn about the school and the role, if you've not been a governor before. But you don't need to do it all at once, and there is help and support for you. You will have a 'buddy' to help and guide you. It can take at least the first year to feel comfortable in the role.

If you are employed, please ask your employer if they support being a governor as part of their corporate and social responsibility policy. It may mean you would get time and support to give to the governor role.

### **Who is eligible to be a parent governor?**

To stand for a parent governor role you need to have 'day to day' responsibility for a child at Badgerbrook Primary School. This means a biological parent, step-parent, foster parent, grandparent, or guardian formally or otherwise.

You also need to be over 18 and not be an elected member of the Local Authority. You will be required to provide information for screening through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). If you would like further information about your eligibility, please contact the office [office@badgerbrook.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@badgerbrook.leics.sch.uk)

If you are not eligible to stand as a parent governor, you could still get involved as a co-opted governor or an associate governor. Or maybe someone else you know might be interested. Again please contact the school office for more information or to express your interest.

### Next Steps

- You can talk to a current governor about the role
- You can ask the office for more information
- You can fill in the nomination form attached (you can nominate yourself, or ask another parent of a child at Badgerbrook Primary School to nominate you, but that cannot be your spouse or partner.)

When you have filled in the nomination form, please deliver it to the school office by Tuesday 31 January 2023.

Please include a short description, of no more than 500 words, about why you would like to stand as a parent governor in case we need to hold a ballot.

- Your supporting statement could include:
  - Who you are
  - Why you want to be a governor at Badgerbrook Primary School and your commitment to the role
  - Any relevant experience or skills you bring to the role
  - What you hope to achieve as a governor

As you know Badgerbrook Primary School, promotes a whole school ethos of 'No Outsiders'.

This is true for the governing body too. Everyone is welcome, all difference is celebrated. We are very friendly and will do everything we can to make you feel included and valued. We hope you will consider joining us and help us in our work, supporting the school to achieve excellence for all.

