



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents,

The Governing Body would like to give you an important update regarding the current governing body election.

The governing body, with the Headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. The governing body has three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

We are very lucky to have such a strong skillset amongst the membership of the Governing Body, but sadly we will be saying farewell to governors Mrs Emma Geurts, Mr Robbie Pitman, Mr Tony Price and Dr Rob Tanner as they have come to the end of their term at the end of the summer term. Our heartfelt thanks to them all for their support and hard work for the good of our school and its pupils.

We have been looking to recruit a new foundation governor from the congregation at St Albans Cathedral. In September, qualified teacher Mrs Sarah Keith will join the Governing Body as our newest foundation governor. We still have one more vacancy for a foundation governor. If you know any members of the community who attend the Cathedral, who are not parents of Abbey School, who would be interested in volunteering and supporting Abbey School in this way, please put them in touch with Miss Fenn or Father Richard.

To ensure that the Governing Body has a full complement of members, with a wide range of skills, we have been looking for new members with the following skill sets:

- Motivated to drive school improvement
- Willing to promote the Christian ethos of the school
- Understand the importance of confidentiality and consent to the Governors Code of Conduct
- Capacity to attend meetings
- A financial background
- Experience in Human Resources and/or recruitment



Healthy Schools





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We were thrilled when both Mrs Nikki Loan (mother to Marcus in Year 2) and Mrs Laurence Perrin-Rees (mother to Elliot in Year 1 and Margot in Reception) stood for the position of parent governor. Both ladies have strong financial backgrounds making their skills incredibly valuable to our school.

During the election process for the single parent governor vacancy, Tony Price's departure has created an additional vacancy for a Diocesan foundation governor from September. Nikki Loan has, therefore withdrawn from the parental governor election and will join the governing body as our new Diocesan governor from September. We are now in the fortunate position that Laurence Perrin-Rees will join the governing body in September as our newest parent governor without the need to hold an election. Thank you to those who took the time to vote. The count will now not take place on Monday.

In addition, Mr Graham Wright, grandparent to Johnny Walker in Year 4 and Issy in Reception, will become a co-opted governor. He brings with him a wealth of business and finance experience.

We are sure that you agree that this is an excellent outcome for the School as we now have a strong field of new governors to join the existing embedded members. In September we will update parents with a revised list of the governing body membership.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Fenn
Headteacher

Debbie Gupta
Chair of Governors