



Principal: Emma Smith

Friday 11th January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

## **RE: Election of Parent Governor(s) Nominations**

There is a vacancy for a parent governor to serve on the Leigh Academy Blackheath Board. We are very keen to encourage parents and/or carers of registered pupils to nominate themselves to fill this place.

Parent governors are elected by other parents and are vital to the work of the overall Board. The Academy Board is responsible for the governance of the academy. In particular, it ensures clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; holds executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and oversees the financial performance of the organisation and makes sure its money is well spent. You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor and we value the experience that all governors bring to the role.

If you join our Academy Board, you will serve for a four-year term and you can continue to the end of the four years even if your child/children leave the school. Please be aware that being a governor does take up time. There are four Academy Board meetings each year, and governors are expected to visit the Academy and join committees as requested. Although the role of governor is an unpaid position, it is a role which requires you to set aside time to prepare for meetings, visit the school and undertake training.

### **Who can be a parent governor?**

All those who have parental responsibility and are over the age of 18 are eligible to stand for election, including parents who work at the school, provided that they work for less than 500 hours per year when they are elected.

There are some circumstances that disqualify an individual from serving as a school governor. If you wish to stand, you will be asked to complete a self-declaration of eligibility form to state that there are no reasons for disqualification from serving as a governor and provide evidence of identity and address if required.

Where tradition meets innovation and potential is realised within a nurturing community

Leigh Academy Blackheath,  
Victoria House, Shooters Hill Road, London SE18 4LX  
Telephone: 020 8104 0888 or 07738 230 306



Leigh Academy Blackheath is part of Leigh Academies Trust

**How to nominate yourself**

If you would like to put your name forward, your nomination must be supported by another parent of student/s currently at the school (not including anyone to whom you are closely related). Their signature, name and address must be on the nomination form.

If the number of nominations is the same as or less than the number of vacancies, all candidates will be elected unopposed.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will take place. The statements of all candidates will be typed in a standard format and circulated to all parents with ballot papers.

To find out more about what being a governor at this school is like, you can contact Cheryl Le Butt, Clerk to the Governors, on 01634 412211, who will be very willing to answer any questions.

If you would like to take the opportunity to put yourself forward as a candidate, please complete and return the attached sheet to me by **Friday, 25th January 2019 at 4pm**. If it is necessary for there to be an election, I will contact you to let you know about the arrangements.

Yours sincerely

**Cynthia Fasuyi**  
**Presiding/Returning Officer**