



Autumn 2021

Vacancy for Community Governor

Hello,

Thank you for showing an interest in the vacancy for Community Governor.

Becoming a school Governor does require a level of commitment and a considerable input of time, but it can prove to be a very worthwhile undertaking. Training and support in this role are available from a variety of local and national sources, including face-to-face and on-line learning. By becoming a school Governor, you will be joining a dedicated and enthusiastic team of Governors including parents and other community Governors.

The position of school Governor has always been an important one; it is vital to the effective running of the school and is a means of giving worthwhile service to the community. Together with the Trustees of the Castleman Academy Trust, the governing team is responsible for the management of the school's strategy, standards, development plan and policies, with specific responsibilities for the school's health and safety, safeguarding, curriculum, pupil progress and values. Local governors in the Castleman Academy Trust form the School Standards Board ("SSB"). They have a particular responsibility to get to know the school in detail in order to monitor school standards and support the Senior Leaders to ensure the very highest quality education for our children. As such, there is a commitment in terms of time and energy. Meetings are held twice a term, (generally on a Wednesday at 3.30pm) and a number of documents are circulated prior to this which must be read and understood and questions prepared to deepen understanding and provide constructive challenge. Whilst the commitment required of the role should not be under-estimated, the reward in terms of contribution to the school and personal 'job satisfaction' more than compensates.

To be successful in the role of community governor, objectivity is essential. The role is about being able to recognise the best course of action for all children and the school as a whole. It is a common misconception that by becoming a governor we become a spokesperson for all parents or we are able to make changes to how the school is run on a day-to-day basis. In reality, the role of a governor is a thinking and questioning role; the BFS SSB has oversight of the school's strategy, standards, development plan and policies.

I should point out that there are a number of circumstances that disqualify an individual from serving as a school Governor. One requirement is that all Governors at appointment or re-appointment should be subject to a criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service. If elected, you would be asked to declare any convictions or bind-overs you may have incurred, including any that would be regarded as "spent" under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974. Your appointment would then be confirmed once satisfactory clearance has been received.

If you would like to apply for position Community Governor, in order to ensure eligibility regarding other areas, you are asked to complete the attached Declaration Form as well as the Application Form,

returning both to the school in an envelope marked 'Community Governor Vacancy' addressed to 'Clerk to Governors'.

Should you wish to discuss the role further, please feel free to contact Gemma Downing, our Clerk, on 01202 129277 or at gdowning@broadstonefirst.poole.sch.uk who would be happy to answer any questions.

Prospective Governors are encouraged to meet with Bex Wood and Dawn Wilks to have a tour of the school and take the opportunity to discuss the role and find out more about school management.

Please contact the school office to arrange a tour if you are interested in pursuing this opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Caroline Amey', written in a cursive style.

Caroline Amey,
Chair of Governors