

11<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Dear Parent

**Parent Governor Election**

The Instrument of Government for the Academy provides for parents and carers of registered pupils to be members of the governing body. Two vacancies currently exist and you are very welcome to put your name forward should you wish to stand for election.

If you would like to put your name forward, please complete the tear-off slip at the foot of the letter and return it to the school by Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

You may like to write a brief factual statement about yourself (not an 'election address', please, and not exceeding 200 words) and return it with this form. Should an election be necessary I will circulate to voters your statement and those of other candidates.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Page  
Clerk to the Governors

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**Parent Governor Election - HOPE ACADEMY**

I wish to serve as a parent governor and to be a candidate if an election is necessary. I confirm that I am eligible to serve as a school governor.

Full name (Forename/s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Surname) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of child/ren \_\_\_\_\_

Their date/s of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

\*I enclose a brief statement about myself for circulation to voters. (\*Delete if not prepared)

**This form should be returned to the school by Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011,  
no later than 4pm.**

**Please return to Student Services at Hope Academy**

## GOVERNOR CRITERIA

All parents and carers are eligible to stand for election, except

- Persons liable to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- Un-discharged bankrupts;
- Persons who have in the previous 5 years (or since becoming a governor) been sentenced to 3 months or more in prison (whether suspended or not) without the option of a fine;
- Persons who have in the previous 20 years been sentenced to imprisonment for 2½ years or more;
- Persons who have at any time been sentenced to imprisonment for 5 years or more;
- Persons who have been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school/academy premises during the 5 years prior to, or since, appointment or election as a governor;
- Persons disqualified under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986
- Persons subject to disqualification as a Charity Trustee
- Persons whose employment is prohibited or restricted
- Persons disqualified from being proprietors of independent schools
- Persons on the DfES List 99 (this is a list of people banned from working with children)
- Persons who are unwilling to make an application for Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check if asked by the clerk;
- Persons who are the clerk to your own governing body.

## THE DEFINITION OF “PARENT” INCLUDES

- All natural parents, whether they are married or not; and
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has *parental responsibility* for a child or young person; and
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person (having care of a child or young person means that a person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child, is considered to be a parent in education law).

## PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: WHO HAS IT?

More than one person may have parental responsibility for the same child at the same time, and a person does not cease to have such responsibility solely because some other person subsequently also acquires it.

Both parents have parental responsibility if they were married to each other at the time of the child's birth, although they may have since separated or divorced.

If the child's parents were not married at the time of the birth, the mother has parental responsibility for the child and the father is able to acquire parental responsibility for the child if he:

- Married the mother of the child;
- Enters into a parental responsibility agreement with the mother;
- Registers the child's birth jointly with the mother (effective from 1 December 2003, but not retrospective);
- Applies to the court for a parental responsibility order.

Parental responsibility passes to the adopter when an adoption order is made.