

Headteacher: Amanda Aze

Chair of Local Advisory Board: Vivien Sloan

Coombe Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 7TP

Email: office@stjohnswey.dsat.org.uk Website: www.stjohns.dsat.org.uk

Tel: 01305 785711

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Dear Parents/Carers,

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES x 2 - ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am writing to all parents/carers to ask you to consider standing for election as a parent governor, or to nominate another parent to do so. Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through your child, you have a first-hand experience of the curriculum and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. As a parent governor, you are able to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school and this is invaluable. We need you.

The governing body, with the head teacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Governing bodies have three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the head teacher 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.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. All necessary training is provided for governors and our governing body has an expectation that those new to being a governor attend free induction training.

There are some circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor. In addition, parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 or more hours per academic year or who are elected members of the Local Authority, are not eligible to stand for these vacancies.

If you would like to stand for election, or would like to have an informal chat about the work of the governing body please contact me either through the office on 01305 785711 or by email at vsloan@stjohnswey.dsat.org.uk.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, there will be an election which will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents/carers together with details of the ballot procedure.

Please seriously consider this opportunity and see if you would be willing to play an important part in the life of the school and your child's education. Effective parent governors will find working alongside the other members of the governing body both interesting and rewarding in that their efforts will ensure that the work of the governing body fulfils its duties to all children.

Yours faithfully,

Vivien Sloan, Chair of the Local Advisory Board

