

Who can stand as and vote for parent governors/trustees?

The definition of a parent in education legislation includes:

- all natural parents whether they are married or not;
- 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.

and

- has a child on roll at the time of election.

Parent governors/trustees generally serve for four years unless the governing board has registered a variation to this in the school's Articles of Association.

Supporting Statement

Please complete a statement, in support of your application and in no more than 250 words, on the nomination form.

Summary of Disqualification Regulations

A governor/trustee must be aged 18 or over at the time of his or her election or appointment and cannot be a registered pupil at the school. A person cannot hold more than one governorship at the same school.

A person is disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a governor, trustee or associate member if he or she:

- fails to attend the governing board meetings – without the consent of the governing board – for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting missed (not applicable to ex officio governors);
- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order, an interim order, a debt relief restrictions order, or an interim debt relief restrictions order;
- has had his or her estate sequestered and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to:
 - i) a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986
 - ii) a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989
 - iii) a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
 - iv) an order made under Section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order);

- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under Section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people;
- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children;
- is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day-care;
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State;
- has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor;
- has received a prison sentence of two years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor;
- has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more;
- has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor;
- refuses a request by the Clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service for an enhanced certificate.

A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor/trustee if they are an elected member of the local authority or if they work at the school for more than 500 hours in any school year. In addition a person may not be **appointed** as a parent governor/trustee unless they are:

- a parent of a registered pupil at the school; or
- a parent of a former pupil of the school; or
- a parent of a child of or under compulsory school age;
- Special Schools only – a parent of a child of or under compulsory school age and with special educational needs for which the school is approved, or
- Special Schools only – a parent with experience of educating a child with special education needs -

Full details of the Regulations covering the disqualification criteria can be found in [The School Governance \(Constitution\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#).

If appointed parent trustee, you will be asked to complete an application for an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.

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