



Join Walkergate Community School Local Governing Committee!

Help our school continue to improve for the benefit of all our pupils.

Become a volunteer in the Local Governing Committee (LGC)!

We have a vacancy for a parent member!

REQUIREMENTS

You must be

- A parent/carer of a current pupil at Walkergate Community School
- Committed to all children in your community receiving the best possible education
- Able to work as part of a team
- Willing to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check

COMMITMENTS OF THE ROLE

- The Local Governing Committee meets 4-6 times a year, after school
- In between meetings, LGC members visit school during the day to see the school in action and report back what they find
- You will be appointed for four years (although you can resign at any time)

THE LGC WORK TOGETHER TO

- Get to know the school well and visit to find out more
- Support and challenge the Headteacher and staff to continuously improve the school
- See the big picture – we don't get involved in the operational day-to-day running of the school, but rather the strategy

HOW WE WILL SUPPORT YOU

- We will provide an induction to your role as a LGC member
- You will have access to training to develop your knowledge and skills through online platforms and a CPD programme
- An experienced member of the LGC will be your 'buddy' to work alongside you and answer questions

On the next page you will find a letter with more information about how you can nominate yourself to join the Local Governing Committee. You will need to fill in a short form to tell us more about yourself – please contact the school office if you need any help with completing this or would like it in an alternative format.

Walkergate Community School is part of NEAT Academy Trust and the Local Governing Committee reports to the Trust Board. It is important that the people who work at or volunteer with NEAT Academy Trust are representative of our communities. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and lived experiences, however we are particularly interested in people who identify as Black, Brown or Person of Colour or have experienced race discrimination as they are currently under-represented in the trust's governance population compared with our pupil population.

26/06/2024



Dear Parent/Carer,

Nomination of Parent Member of the Local Governing Committee of Walkergate Community School

We are asking all parents/carers of current pupils to consider nominating themselves for the vacant parent vacancy on our Local Governing Committee.

The Committee is made up of around 12 people drawn from the local community, staff and parents, who bring different skills, experiences and views to help us improve the school. Parents have a really important role as you know the school well and what it is like for our pupils and parents/carers.

Nomination Process

Nominations must be from parents, or individuals with parental responsibility, of a pupil at Walkergate Community School and the pupil must be registered at the school at the time the appointment is made.

To nominate yourself as a parent member of the local governing committee, please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to **the school office (Main site or Early Years)** no later than 3pm on **Wednesday 10th July 2024**. It should only take 10-15 minutes to complete – please contact the school office if you need any support to complete the form

Election process

If there is only one nomination, the nominated person will be elected unopposed without the need for a ballot. If there is more than one nomination, an election will be held by secret ballot. If an election is necessary, voting papers - including the supporting statement submitted by each nominee - will be sent to all relevant parents together with details of the ballot procedure. Parents/carers will be notified of the outcome of the process on class Dojo and on our Facebook page in due course.

Finding out more

If you would like to find out more, please see the page on our school website about Becoming a local governing committee member: <https://walkergate.neat.org.uk/governance-vacancies/>. You can also get in touch with Emma Phillips, Governance Support Adviser, who works at the NEAT Central Office on 0191 228 4090 for an informal chat about what being a LGC member involves.

I really encourage you to consider becoming a local governing committee member and get involved in shaping the future of our school.

Yours faithfully

Mr D. Nelson
Headteacher and Returning Officer

Sutton Street, Walkergate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 4SD
Telephone (0191) 265 5737 Option 1
Website- [HYPERLINK "http://www.walkergate.newcastle.sch.uk"](http://www.walkergate.newcastle.sch.uk)
www.walkergate.newcastle.sch.uk
Head Teacher:- Mr Dan Nelson Deputy Head:- Mrs Jenny Stroughair

Also at:- Shields Road, Walkergate, Newcastle upon Tyne
Telephone (0191) 265 5737 Option 2 Fax (0191) 263 1219



Artsmark
Silver Award
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Council England



Local Governing Committee Nomination Form - Parent Member

Name:		Title:	
School:			

Section A – Personal details

Address:	Telephone (Home)
	Telephone (Mobile)
	Email

Section B - Supporting Statement - This part of the form sets out why you wish to become a member of the local governing committee. If an election is required this section will be shared with all voters to enable them to make an informed choice when casting their vote.

Why do you want to become a member of the local governing committee? (Maximum 100 words)

Do you have any previous experience as a school governor? (Maximum 100 words)

Section C - Additional Information - This part of the form will not be shared publicly. This part of the form is to enable us to establish whether any circumstance exists that means a serious or frequent conflict of interest may arise which may affect whether it is advisable to proceed with the appointment, and/or whether there are any relationships with those involved in the appointment process.

Is this your first term of office as a school governor?	YES/NO
Are you a governor in another school or academy?	YES/NO
If YES please provide the name of the school/academy, your term of office and any specific role you undertake e.g. chair, vice chair, committee chair, link governor	
Are you a non-executive director/trustee of any other trust of schools/academies? YES/NO	

If YES please provide the name of the trust, your term of office and any specific role you undertake e.g. chair, vice chair, committee chair

If you have any relationship with any current employee or local governing committee member of the school, or non-executive director of the trust, please tell us their name and the relationship. This will not prejudice your nomination and ensures a fair and transparent process.

Section D - Declaration

I wish to submit my nomination as a parent member of the local governing committee. I understand that if there are more nominations than vacancies for parent members of the local governing committee that an election will be held by secret ballot.

I confirm that

- I am the parent of, or have parental responsibility for, a pupil registered at the school
- I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a parent member of the local governing committee
- if elected, I am willing to serve a four year term of office from the date of election
- I confirm that I am willing to uphold the trust's charitable objects to "advance education for the benefit of the public" and to provide "facilities for recreation or other leisure occupation" for the local community, as set out in Article 4 of the trust's Articles of Association. This includes recognising and supporting the individual ethos of each of the trust's schools, whether or not designated as a Church of England school. The objects can be read in full at: <https://www.neat.org.uk/governance/#documents>
- If elected, I agree to an enhanced criminal records check for the children's workforce from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
- I confirm that I am not disqualified from holding office as a local governing committee member for any of the reasons described in Annex A.

Signature:

Date:

Annex A - Disqualification under the trust's Articles of Association or section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008

A person is disqualified from serving on a Local Government Committee if:

- they are under 18 years of age at the date of their appointment/election;
- they are a current pupil of any school within the academy trust;
- they have been declared bankrupt and/or their estate has been seized and the declaration or seizure has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- they are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order;
- they are subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order);
- they have been removed from the office of director or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which they were responsible or to which they were privy, or which they by their conduct contributed to or facilitated;
- they have been convicted of any criminal offence which is not spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as amended, excluding any offence for which the maximum sentence is a fine or a lesser sentence except where a person has been convicted of any offence which falls under section 178 of the Charities Act 2011;
- they are subject to a direction that prohibits or restricts them from participating in the management of an independent school, including academies and free schools made under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008.

Section E - Governance Recruitment - Equality and Diversity Monitoring

This information will be separated from sections A-D and will not be shared publicly. The information you give is confidential, will not be shared beyond those who need to process it as part of their job role and will only be published anonymously in an aggregated format.

NEAT Academy Trust aims to have a workforce and governors that reflect the diversity of the communities we serve. We collect information about the age, disability, ethnic group and gender of individuals applying to become members, directors and local governing committee members as there is evidence nationally that women, people from Black and non-Black minority ethnic backgrounds, young people and disabled people are under-represented on governing boards. The classifications within each protected characteristic reflect those used by the Office for National Statistics as this enables us to directly compare the profile of our governance volunteers with those of our pupils and the local population.

We will ensure that personal data is handled and processed in accordance with our duties under the Data Protection Act 2018. Please see our privacy notice for members, directors and governors on the NEAT website: <https://www.neat.org.uk/policies-documents/>

How would you best describe your ethnic group or background? (Please tick one)									
Your ethnic group could be your cultural or family background. First, choose one option that reflects your identity from sections A to E. Once you've chosen the section you most closely identify with, select an option within that section. If your ethnic group is not listed, you can select the "Any other" option within that section and write in your identity. If you feel you belong to more than one ethnic background from the sections, select "Mixed or Multiple ethnic group".									
White	English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/ British				Irish	Roma			
Gypsy or Irish traveller		Any other white background			(write here)				
Mixed or multiple ethnic group				White and black Caribbean					
White and Black African			White and Asian						
Any other mixed / multiple ethnic background				(write here)					
Asian/Asian British			Indian	Pakistan	Bangladesh				
Chinese	Any other background			(write here)					
Black/African/Caribbean/Black-British			African	Caribbean					
Any other Black/African/Caribbean background				(write here)					
Arab	Any other Ethnic Group			(write here)					

What age range are you in? (Please tick one)								Prefer not to say ()	
18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+

How would you describe your gender? (Please tick one)			
Female	Male	Prefer not to say	
Prefer to self describe	Please enter your self description		

Do you consider you have a disability (Please tick one)		
YES	NO	Prefer not to say

Where did you hear about this position?			
Social media	Twitter	Direct communication from school	
	Linked In	Website (NEAT Academy Trust)	
	Facebook	Website (School)	
Direct approach from Trust/school		Inspiring Governance	
Through my employer (please give details)			
Poster / flyer (please tell us where you saw this)			
Other (please give details)			