



St. Peter's

Church of England Primary School

LOVE LEARN SHINE

Friday 21 March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

FOUNDATION / ACADEMY GOVERNOR VACANCY – Nominations Now Open until Friday 25 April 2025

Following many years of dedicated service, Linda McPhee our Chair of Governors, will conclude her service to St Peter's School at the end this academic year. I am sure you will join me in sending our thanks and best wishes to Linda for all she has done for St Peter's. We will be thanking Linda formally later in the year and will keep families updated regarding this.

We are pleased to now write to families with information regarding filling this governor vacancy from September 2025. This could be for the governor role only and/or the role of Chair of the governing body. Please consider whether either of these roles are of interest to you or someone you know. Please also share this information in your networks.

The school's governing body is made up as follows.

- 2 elected parent governors
- 1 elected staff governor
- Headteacher (ex officio)
- Incumbent (ex officio)
- Between 5 and 8 appointed academy or foundation governors
- Up to 2 governors co-opted by the LGB with the prior approval of the CEO of the Trust

A foundation / academy governor can be anyone from within or beyond our community who feels they would like to make a positive contribution to serving St Peter's School. It could be a parent, grandparent, or anyone wishing to serve a local school making a positive contribution to the work of the school. It can be someone still in work or retired.

A recent skills audit highlighted two areas where the board would benefit from a greater experience and expertise: finance, health and safety, and premises/buildings management. Anyone with a particular knowledge of these areas is therefore very much encouraged to consider nominating themselves. We also welcome nominations from anyone who has skills in other areas and is keen to support our school through serving on the governing body.

Telephone: 01423 569684

Headteacher – Mr Paul Griffiths. Belford Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 1JA

Email: admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk Website - <https://stpeters.ycst.co.uk>

Part of Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number: 07663935. Registered Office: St Aidan's CE High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 8JR.





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What do Governors do?

The local governing body of St Peter's works under a clear scheme of delegation from Yorkshire Causeway Multi Academy Schools Trust (YCST) to support, challenge and encourage the Headteacher to ensure the continued growth and development of the school.

Once appointed or elected, all governors operate in the best interest of the children. Their task is to govern the school. The DfE describes the purpose of governance as being to provide strategic leadership accountability and assurance and strategic engagement.

A key role of the governing body is to ensure that the school remains true to its core vision and that this vision impacts children, staff and families positively. As a governing body of a Church of England school governors also ensure that the Christian distinctiveness of St Peter's is upheld.

The governors, as a body, have a range of responsibilities including in relation to school vision and strategy, school improvement, monitoring practice in relation to curriculum and learning, safeguarding, financial management, staff wellbeing, health and safety and estates management. Being a governor is an important and worthwhile role, and our governing body is highly valued by the school and trust leaders.

Governors should be willing to attend training to help them learn what the position entails, along with attending at least six governor meetings during the academic year. Governors also visit the school to help evaluate the impact of its work. The term of office is usually four years.

Are there any restrictions which could disqualify someone from becoming a Governor?

Yes, but they are unlikely to apply to most applicants considering becoming a governor. The restrictions are set out in the document 'Qualifications and Disqualifications to Serve as a Trustee of Governor (extract from the Articles of Association of Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust)'. This document is attached to the Governor Application Form which anyone putting themselves forward for consideration will be required to sign. A copy of the application form can be accessed from the Governance section of our website [here](#). If any of the restrictions apply you should not proceed with your nomination as a governor.

Governors are subject to enhanced DBS checks and the school will provide the nominee with the necessary information as to how to access and complete the on-line application form. They will then need to provide the school with proof of identity (as detailed in the list of Valid Identity Documents) before the Head teacher can complete and forward the school's verification form to DBS.

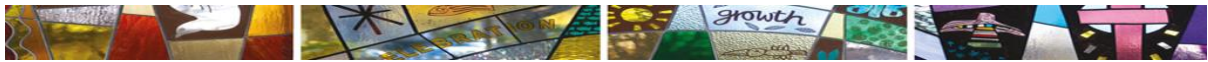
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If you have any concerns over issues which might be highlighted by an enhanced DBS, please discuss these with me, as they may not exclude you from acting as a Governor.

How are Foundation / Academy Governors decided?

In the first instance the school takes steps to inform likely applicants of a vacancy. Any interested parties are invited to have an informal discussion with the Headteacher or Chair of Governors to learn more about the role. There is also information about the role available on the school website which can be accessed [here](#).

Anyone interested in applying should then complete an application form. Final appointment is subject to safeguarding checks and approval from YCST and the Diocese of Leeds.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and, where appropriate, sharing it among your networks. If you have any questions, please get in touch via admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk or by calling 01423 569684.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS IS FRIDAY 25 APRIL 2025.

Best wishes

Mr Paul Griffiths – Headteacher

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