

Ref/SHG/bb

6 September 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian

Whickham School and Sports College (Academy Trust) Governing Body/Parent Governor Vacancies

The Academy Governing Body consists of both elected and appointed Governors.

Parent Governors

The Articles of Association require at least two elected Parent Governors. The Members of the Academy Trust have determined that Whickham School will have up to six Parent Governors, and these are nominated and elected exactly the same arrangements as applied to the old maintained school.

Parent Governors are parents or carers of children enrolled at the school at the time of their appointment. Should their child(ren) leave Whickham School during their term of office, they may continue on the Governing Body until the end of their four year term. Vacancies for Parent Governors must be notified to all parents and nominations requested. A ballot of all parents is held if there are more nominations than positions available.

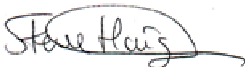
The full governing body has up to twenty two governors representing the community, parents, staff and the local authority. Many of the Academy governors are experienced members of the previous governing body. Parents who would like to know more before putting themselves forward are welcome to contact Mr Haigh to discuss the role and responsibilities.

How to become a Parent Governor

Parents/Carers who would like to be considered for staff governor should complete a nomination form. (The nomination form can be downloaded from www.whickhamschool.org - About Section - Governors). Completed nomination forms should be returned to Mrs Bates, Headteacher's PA by **Wednesday 21 September 2011** at 12.30pm (bridiebates@gateshead.gov.uk).

In the event of more than six nominations being received, a ballot will be held and all parents will receive further information on the conduct of the ballot. All nomination forms will be available to view online in the event of a ballot taking place. There are limitations on the number of governors who are elected council members or employees of local authorities so we will ask for this information in your nomination form.

Yours faithfully



S Haigh
Headteacher