



Parent Governor Candidate Election Statements

Stuart HENDERSON

Reasons for applying:

My daughter attends Whiteley primary and hopefully our son will too in the future. I have recently retired from Hampshire Constabulary and wish to help others and the community. Now having the time to do so being a school governor would fulfill this.

Experience and personal skills:

I have recently retired from Hampshire Constabulary and having served in the police both in London and Hampshire I have great experiences in helping and advising others. I have great communication skills on all levels, including children as I am currently a Water Babies teacher. Having more time now to help others and be more involved I feel this is an ideal opportunity for me to be a school governor and help my community another way.

During my career in the police I was trained in many skills including. I was front line uniformed officer for 20 years then held a position within covert policing for 8 years.

The time and skills I have I feel would be a benefit to Whiteley primary school.

Kelly KENT

Reasons for applying:

As a parent to two children in Whiteley I have a strong personal interest to join the governing body at Whiteley Primary School, my son is in Year 3 and my daughter is due to start school in September 2019. I want to ensure that Whiteley Primary School continues to offer pupils the best possible education. Through my application as parent governor, I want to show my support to the school, and its community, and offer my full commitment and twenty years of teaching experience to ensure that the school is supported to go from strength to strength.

Like any parent, I want my children to go to school to have their minds broadened, so they are empowered with the knowledge to make a difference. Both personally and in a professional capacity I am driven and committed to ensuring that children are given a relevant and well-rounded education. These are massive assets I believe will help me to be a confident and competent parent governor.

As a Whiteley resident, and parent, I am very interested in the continuous development of educational provision in the area to ensure the young people of Whiteley have the best possible opportunities. Learning should be inspiring, engaging and character building, all features I am confident my son is experiencing at Whiteley Primary, as a Parent Governor I want to ensure that this continues to be the case for years to come.

Experience and personal skills:

As a successful secondary school teacher, I have worked in three secondary schools in various whole school roles. I am currently on the Senior Leadership Team in a large, successful Hampshire secondary school. I have been very impressed with the learning opportunities my son has experienced at Whiteley Primary School, as well as his social and academic progress at the school, but I have the skills and understanding within an educational context to question data, and challenge proposed ideas to ensure the right decisions are made by the school to meet the whole school vision, and develop the right ethos. I completely appreciate the time, hard work and expertise in the staff at Whiteley Primary and would

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relish the opportunity to work with this school to ensure the correct decisions are made to allow all children at the school now, and in the future, to become motivated, resilient and curious learners, giving them the best possible start in life. I have extensive experience in teaching and learning which will inform my role as a parent governor. In addition, I understand the performance management systems of teachers and feel confident in holding staff to account for this.

I have been very lucky in my career to have worked in schools, and through local and national initiatives to gain experience and improve provision in many areas of education including; teaching and learning strategies, behaviour management, gifted and talented provision, teacher training, staff development and apprenticeships in schools. These are skills that I feel would be massively beneficial to governing body, and although based in a secondary context, could be very transferable to a primary setting. I am completely aware that primary education has many differences to my extensive secondary school-based experience but in my roles as a teacher, Head of Year, Subject Leader and now Senior Leader in a secondary school setting I fully understand the demands on the modern school in times of tighter school budgets and high workloads. On a day to day basis I am experienced in thinking strategically and creatively to ensure the right decisions in an educational setting are made. We are in challenging times for education, I am well-aware of this, and although completely supportive of the school, as a parent governor, I am also prepared to question to ensure the decisions made by the school are in the best interest of all our children.

Ben POPHAM

Reasons for applying:

I currently have two children at the school and will have a third joining in two years time. I would like to use my personal knowledge and experience to help to maintain the schools high standards and to improve them where possible. I am very passionate about supporting the school within the community I live in which also provides so much for my children and friend's children.

Experience and personal skills:

I am currently a serving Police Officer and have been for over 11 eleven years. I believe my professional and personal experiences along with my interests in my own children's development put me in a great position to help the growth of the school. I have taught children to sail for years also so with these combination of skills would have no problem talking to the children if required for the role of governor. I have an in-depth knowledge of safeguarding which may assist with difficult decisions the school encounters also.

Alan SPONG

Reasons for applying:

I want to have an active part of my child's and other's education. I would like to use my skill sets to support the school in providing parent oversight towards achieving the school's vision and shaping its future strategy while helping to, maintain and improve the school's standards. I am committed to work for the benefit of the community to help get the best education and outcomes for all of our children to reach their full potential.

Experience and personal skills:

I play an active role in my child's education and am a strong believer in inspiring children at a young age, promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects and enabling them to achieve their full potential. I spend a great deal of time with my son, James, teaching him (through practical experiences) about how science and engineering form a major part of our lives and the impact

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these subjects have made on our world. I am a physical scientist by background (PhD in Chemistry), so I have strong experience working with in Higher Education, both as an educator and as a student and am always keen to learn new skills myself. After my postgraduate studies, I moved into the chemical engineering industry (worked for both small and large industrials).

In my current role as Continuous Improvement Director for an aerospace company, I develop and deploy training courses and mentor/coach projects on lean manufacturing and business improvement methodologies (Six Sigma), including improving the quality of the learning experience. I help shape and implement business improvement strategy, develop annual strategic and business improvement plans and am responsible for the governance and oversight for implementation of improvements (e.g. leading steering committees, business sign-off for project completion). To fulfil and succeed in my role I am objective, I drive accountability in myself and others and approach leadership in an open and transparent manner whenever possible. In my work for a major global aerospace company, which involves sensitive international government contracts, I display honesty and integrity in all my activities. In addition I have been required to undergo security screening for my current role. I have significant experience managing teams, mentoring senior leadership, leading large scale business transformation projects and leading departments and functions. I have experience serving on other committees in the past (Local Royal Society of Chemistry) and reviewing financial accounts and budgets. I believe that these skills could be really beneficial to the Whiteley School Board of Governors, as my skill-sets and the methodologies I deploy in business can equally be applied in education and public service to support improvement strategies. I am keen to help Whiteley Primary School maintain and further improve upon the outstanding performance that its staff, pupils and parents value so much.