

ARE YOU A PARENT/GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT ENROLLING AT LONDON ROAD CAMPUS?



Hello! My name is Nigel Merchant. I am a Parent Governor at the College and my son is studying for his A Levels here.

I'd like to tell you about my role and how YOU can get involved in talking to the College by becoming a PARENT GOVERNOR from September 2019.

WHAT IS A PARENT GOVERNOR?

The Governors are a group of people who are volunteers and they are responsible for the College. They are known as 'The Board' and have special responsibilities for making sure the College is run properly. The Board is responsible for setting the College's direction, Budget and ensuring that the College provides the best quality teaching and learning. The Board is made up of 19 governors from across the community, including 2 Parent Governors. Parent governors use their experiences as the parent/guardian of a student at the College when the Board makes decisions. This unique perspective enables the Board to ensure that the students are at the heart of the decision making process.

WHAT DOES BEING A PARENT GOVERNOR INVOLVE?

Parent governors are vital to the governing body as they ensure that the highest priority is given to the concerns and issues which are most important to our parents, and ensure that the governing body is kept in close touch with parent opinion. We have the opportunity to contribute to important College decisions, such as what the College is planning to do over the next few years.

Being a governor also provides an opportunity to gain useful life skills and experience, such as how to work as a team, how to develop professional relationships and contribute at meetings.

Full training and support for the role are provided and any the College will reimburse and eligible expenses incurred whilst being a governor

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE ON THE ROLE? IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK TO THE BOARD, TRACY COTTEE—tracyc@shrewsbury.ac.uk or telephone 01743 242328

What is this about?

There is a **vacancy** on the College's Corporate Governing Body (known as the Corporation) for a parent of a student studying at London Road Campus.

All parent or legal guardians are eligible unless they are also employed by the College or fail to meet the Board's eligibility standards, which are set out in the application form.

It is the Corporation which, amongst other things, sets and reviews the College's aims, objectives and policies. A **parent's perspective** on these and all other matters it considers is **vital**.

What's in it for me?

Service on the Corporation gives an insight into how a complex organisation such as the College is run and an **influential voice** in those matters. College parent governors typically extend their range of skills and gain valuable experience and appreciation of their child's learning journey.

What would I have to do?

All Governors serve in a **voluntary** and unpaid capacity (although necessary expenses are reimbursed). The **duties** of this position involve attending meetings of the Corporate Governing Body in order to provide the student perspective. **Training** for the role is given, both on appointment and for the continued development of all Governors.

It sounds like it might be time-consuming?

Well, there are up to 4 scheduled meetings per year, usually held on the first Monday (from 5.30 p.m.) from October to July. In addition, Parent Governors can become members of one of the other committees, which also meet 5 times a year, again at 5.30 p.m. Meetings usually last about 2 hours each and you will be expected to have prepared for the meeting in advance by reading the agenda and papers sent to you about a week before the meeting date.

The **period of office** for parent governors is 3 years, subject to continued eligibility. In the case of the parent member, this includes your child continuing to be a registered College student throughout. This is not as unlikely as it may seem; many students continue with the College for a few years, as they progress their qualifications. But, if you're child is only with us for a year or two, there's still an important role you can play.

What can I offer?

The most important **qualities** needed for the parent member are:

- A desire to support the College;
- the ability to communicate clearly and with confidence;
- enthusiasm, a sense of humour and the ability to work as a team;
- good reading and comprehension skills.

I might be interested - what next?

If you would like to have an informal discussion about what is involved, please contact me (details below).

Formal Nominations start soon. If more than one nomination is received, the names of the candidates, together with their "personal statements", will be considered by the Search & Governance Committee for nomination to the Corporation.

The College values equality and diversity and welcomes applications from under-represented sectors of the community.

Contact:

TRACY COTTEE

Clerk to the Corporation

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