



## Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to remember Mrs. Hayden who was a member of our school staff for forty years, and an invaluable member of our governing body. We have written to her family in appreciation of her kindness, hard work and dedication to the school over this time and to offer our sincerest condolences.

Secondly, I would like to thank Mrs. Lloyd, a Governor at our school for 33 years, who has recently decided to retire from the governing body to help to look after her youngest grandchildren. Our thanks to her for being an exceptional Governor and in her time, Chair of Governors both at our school and at Cove Senior School. She has promised to remain in touch.

Miss. Bateman has kindly agreed to take up Mrs. Hayden's position on the Governing Body; her knowledge and input is much appreciated. We have a further vacancy for a Community Governor (Co-opted Governor) that we are hoping to fill soon. This is in addition to four Parent Governor vacancies.

## Can you help us achieve an even better school for our children?

Are you interested in joining the Governing Body? We value the views of our Parent Governors, as they are vital in contributing to the main decisions taken by the Governing Body, in a way that would most benefit the families associated with our school.

Through our Parent Governors, Parent surveys and discussions, we have contributed to the school's commitment to:

- Open an After School Club.
- Change the Spring Parents Evening from a Pupil Led Learning Review to a more traditional Teacher Led Review.
- Improve communication about the wide range of extra curricular clubs on offer and new clubs that have started.

In the future some of the things we want to work towards are:

- Single age groups in all classes across the school.
- A purpose built room for the afterschool club that could be used by our community in evenings and weekends.
- An inspirational learning environment inside and out.
- The best school experience for your child, academically and emotionally.

## Will you help us?

As we value the views of our families, we had allocated six Parent Governor places to our Governing Body. At the moment there are **FOUR** vacancies. As you know from my repeated letters, we are finding it impossible to fill these spaces. If we do not receive applications to fill these spaces I will have no choice other than to reconstitute the Governing Body to allocate fewer Parent Spaces. Please, help our existing Parent Governors represent the views of the Parents and the needs of the children in our governing body. Without those Parents, the Governors are at risk of becoming out of touch with what our current pupils need and with what our parents believe is the way forward to improving our school. Our skills analysis has hi-lighted our need to encourage those with HR or Estate Management experience to apply, but most importantly we would like to hear from people with a commitment and interest in our children's future. Free training to help you in your new role is given.

If you are interested and would like to find out more about joining us on the governing body, please follow this link [www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/governors/volunteer](http://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/governors/volunteer)

or get in touch with me through the following email or through the school office.  
[Chair.gov@cove-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:Chair.gov@cove-jun.hants.sch.uk)

Cove Junior School, Fernhill Rd, Farnborough GU14 9SA  
Tel: 01252 542941

If you would like to apply, please follow the link to find the application form or ask at the school office for a paper copy.

<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/governors/SchoolGovernorApplicationForm-October2016.pdf>

Please hand in your application to the school office or email it to our Clerk to the governors [linda.mcbrearty1@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.mcbrearty1@btinternet.com)

If there are more applicants than places we will hold an election. The information you provide on page 2 of the form (on why you would like to be a governor) will be provided to parents so that they can vote for the candidate that represents them best. If there are fewer applicants than places, a position will be awarded on informal interview with the governors.

The deadline for applications is noon, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

Many Thanks,

Sarah Merry,

Chair of Governors

For further reading, please follow the link to the Governance Handbook (2015) and the Governor Competency Framework published by the government in 2017.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook)