



Dear Parent/Carer

## **PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION**

I wrote to you on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to invite nominations for the vacancy for a parent governor.

I am delighted to say that there has been a good response and there are 3 candidates for the 1 vacancy. This means we must now hold a ballot.

Attached to this letter is:

- a ballot paper with the names of the candidates (in alphabetical order)
- a copy of the personal statements from the candidates who are

You may vote for 1 of the candidates. Each parent can submit one ballot paper, regardless of the number of pupils you have attending the school. As indicated on the ballot paper you should vote by marking an X alongside the name of the parent you support.

Once you have marked the ballot paper you should seal it in an envelope. This should then be put in the ballot box, which can be found in the school reception by 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022. If it is not possible for you to vote in person, please return to the following address: MAT Clerk, Suite A, Paceycombe House, Paceycombe Way, Poundbury, Dorchester, DT1 3WB.

The election will be decided by a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, lots will be drawn.

When the election has been completed I will let you know the outcome. If in the meantime you have any queries, please let me know.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the Local Governing Body

## Ballot paper

*This ballot paper includes the candidates' personal statements in the same document. You may choose to provide these as a separate document.*

### Election of Parent Local Governors Thomas Hardy School

There is 1 vacancy for parent local governors. You may vote for 1 candidate, do NOT vote more than once for each candidate.

#### Candidates

##### **Alexander Edwards**

I am a parent of 3 with 2 children at Thomas Hardy school and 1 at Broadmayne. From sept – 2013 to July 2017, I was an active parent governor at St Marys CofE Middle school (Puddletown). My tenure on the LGB included the oversight of the recruitment of a new Head of School and the establishment of the Greenwood Tree Academy Trust. My work's travel commitments at the time resulted in standing down as a governor.

I am a Programme Manager for BAE systems, employed locally in Weymouth, including working with former students from the Thomas Hardy School. With my travel commitments now largely based across the south of England, I am looking forward to the opportunity to contribute directly to the education setting which has had the most influence on our family.

Skills and qualifications I offer to this role include leadership and business managements, qualified by Manchester Business School (2020), Chartered Manager with Chartered Management institution (2015) and over twenty years of business leadership roles. While not qualified as a Financial Accountant. My post-graduate qualifications include finance management, and my experience with St Mary's included peer-review and support direct to the finance team.

##### **Amanda Gallaher**

My child attends Thomas Hardy school so I have a vested interest in helping the school to succeed and to provide the best possible education for its pupils.

I am an experienced school governor, having previously served as a governor of three schools in Dorset (as a parent governor and Local Authority Appointed Governor), one of which was an Academy. I have undertaken extensive governor training and have been chair of two school finance committees and a vice chair of governors. I have also served as a Primary Phase Governor representative on the Dorset Schools Forum.

My Career background is as a research scientist (having graduated in physics) and as a senior manager in the defence industry, which I gave up to become a full-time mum when my son was born. I have subsequently had a portfolio career as a non executive director, company chairman, board advisor and member of independent audit committees, all in public service organisations, including the NHS (hospital and primary care), the police and social care.

My extensive experience of business finance and my knowledge of corporate governance are directly applicable to serving on a school Governing body.

I have an interest in Special Educational needs and have undertaken some distance learning on aspects of neurodiverse conditions such as autism and ADHD.

I feel I have the skills and enthusiasm to make a valuable contribution to the good governance of the Thomas Hardy School and would like to be considered for a position on the Governing Body.

**David Prince**

My Family moved to Dorchester from South Africa in July 2018 as we wanted to be closer to my family who have lived in Dorset their whole lives. I have a child who is currently at the school and another child joining Hardye’s next year.

I worked in finance for 25 years in Jersey, South Africa and Dubai on returning to Dorset we bought the main Post Office on Trinity Street, and I am now the Postmaster in Dorchester.

I have a broad experience in banking and for the last 4 years in running my own businesses, I am degree educated and hold an MBA from Liverpool John Moore’s University.

I believe I would be a good parent local governor as I have a strong interest in the school and an extensive background in finance and leadership having led teams across a numerous jurisdiction with diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

With two children at the school, I have a vested interest in ensuring the school maintains its high standards of education and helps to develop young adults who will be proud and confident.

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**Election of parent local governors – Thomas Hardye School**

Candidate	Mark an 'X' to indicate your vote