

To all Parents/Carers

18th November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parent Governor Vacancy

I wrote to you recently 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 three candidates for the one 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:
 - **Anouska Barnes**
 - **Indeera Payne**
 - **Jenny Reuben**

All parent and carers get **one** vote, regardless of the number of children attending the school.

As indicated on the ballot paper, you should vote by marking an 'X' alongside the name of the candidate you support. You can only vote for **one** of the candidates.

Once you have marked the ballot paper you should seal it in an envelope. This should be put in the ballot box in the school Reception by Wednesday 30th November 2022. If it is not possible for you to vote in person, please post to the school for the attention of Mr Dave Cobb.

Voting is also available online. Please follow this [link](#) should you wish to cast your vote electronically. If you choose to vote electronically, there is no need to also post your vote to the school. Any duplicate votes will only be counted once. Should duplicate votes not match, i.e. you have voted differently on the postal vote, the electronic vote will take precedence and the postal vote will be considered a spoilt ballot paper.

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 write to you to let you know the outcome. If you have any queries in the meantime, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Cobb
School Business & Development Manager / Returning Officer

Candidate Personal Statements

Anouska Barnes

It would be a great joy and privilege to serve on the Governing Board as a Parent Governor for the school.

I currently have two children in the school, one in Year 11 and the other in Year 8 and have enjoyed being part of the school community since 2018.

I was a member of staff (Cover Supervisor) at Saint Cecilia's when my eldest was in Years 7 and 8 and so have first-hand experience in the school and understand how it runs.

I was also appointed Staff Governor at the time and therefore have knowledge of how the Governing Body works and have contributed to the running of the school having been on various committees.

I am a trained French and Spanish teacher and have had experience teaching in various schools over the years. Currently, however, I am working at All Saints Church in Wandsworth as Music Director amongst other duties.

I feel my expertise as a Modern Languages teacher, former staff member and board member at St Cecilia's would be very beneficial to the school community. I very much hope to be part of the Governing Body again and help to work to ensure that Saint Cecilia's continues to offer our children the best possible educational experience.

Indeera Payne

I would like to apply for the position because I have an interest in improving the futures of all children at Saint Cecilia's School; I endeavour to make a difference in each child's educational and social development within the realms of the school's ethos. I will bring years of experience as a parent and lecturer in further education; therefore I feel that I am equipped to share my knowledge and skills and support with the wider school's agenda. I will offer years of professional skills and behaviour that include the ability to listen without judgement, make decision from evidence and not be swayed by personal goals.

I now have the time in my life to dedicate the support needed to form a working alliance with the Headteacher and Leadership team so that we work towards a common goal for the better of all children. I have a great interest in Education, and how this may influence children's progression within a school setting, hence I keep abreast with trends and legislation in the sector.

Jenny Reuben

I write to express my interest in being a Parent Governor.

I am a parent of three children, and my son has recently joined year 7.

My background is in the Supply Chain Logistics, where I have a passion for understanding how things work and ensuring we create a supply chain that offers the best service for its customers. Some elements of my role include safety testing for over 24,000 engineers, creating

applications with digital teams, managing change, and supporting the career paths of young apprentices.

I have also been a chaperone for over ten years; actively working with theatre companies to support children through their performances. This is a privileged experience that led me to realise, I had the patience and determination to support and encourage children from all backgrounds.

I have also previously been a trustee for a youth group in Croydon and continue to support my local church with weekly activities for the children.

My priorities if elected would be to support the school to continue to deliver excellence for our students, and to represent the views and interests of both students and parents. I greatly value the importance of working with the team, to see where my skills best meet the immediate needs of the school and continue to put the values of the student at the heart of what I do.

I will ensure to play an active part in my role as a governor by being responsible and dedicated to the needs of the school, whilst continuing to build on its connection and engagement with parents. Thank you for your consideration.