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Principal: Mrs Anne Davis

Heath Lane

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12th November

Dear Parent/Carer,

Election of Parent Governors

I am writing to invite you to consider standing for election as a Parent Governor for this school; we currently have two Parent Governor vacancies.

Every Local Authority Maintained school has a Governing Body, which includes a number of categories of Governors including Parent Governors. Parent Governors are elected to serve for a period of four years, though they may resign at any time.

Together with the Principal, the Governing Body has overall responsibility for the running of the school; amongst many duties Governors are involved in deciding school policies, allocating the school's budget and appointing senior staff.

The Governing Body has 3 core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent. (Governance Handbook)

No special qualifications are needed, the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and **be prepared to give time** to play an active part in the Governing Body's work. In order to support Governors in their work full training is provided at no cost to the individual.

In our school we have four Parent Governors who serve for a term of office of four years. The Full Governing Body normally meets four times per year, usually at 6pm. In addition, at DSTC we have two committees, Quality of Provision and Finance and Resources. There will be Committee meetings held each term, you would be expected to sit on one of the

committees and attend the associated meetings as well as those of the Full Governing Body. Governors are required to have a DBS check completed upon appointment.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the attached form and return it to me within 10 school days, i.e. by 3pm on the **26th November 2020**.

You may wish to propose another parent and if so, please ensure that they are aware of your intentions; please also ensure that they sign the nomination form by way of confirmation.

Each person standing for election is invited to provide with their nomination, a short personal statement (a maximum and strictly no more than 250 words). The statement could include biographical information, your reasons for wanting to be a Parent Governor, your skills and the contribution you believe you could make to the Governing Body.

If the number of nominations received is equal or less than the number of vacancies, the nominee(s) will automatically be elected as Parent Governors, subject to a satisfactory DBS check; if there are more nominations than vacancies, a ballot (vote) will be held and copies of the personal statements will be sent to all parents; 10 school days will be allowed for the return of ballot papers.

Each eligible parent will have one vote for each vacancy, irrespective of the number of children they have at the school. The ballot paper and two envelopes will be distributed to each eligible parent. Each ballot paper will be stamped or endorsed for security and/or produced on coloured paper. Ballot papers would be returned in the inner, unmarked envelope, which should in turn, be placed in the outer envelope; the outer envelope should be clearly marked with:

- 'Parent Governor Election'
- the name and address of the voter
- the name(s) of the voters child(ren)
- the voters signature across the seal

I do hope you will consider standing as a Governor or perhaps nominating another parent/carer (please ensure they are aware of your intentions; you should also obtain their signature on the nomination form).

If you would like more information about being a School Governor, please contact a member of our Governing Body via email address ClerktoGovernors@dstc.kent.sch.uk or myself for more information via the school office.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Anne Davis

Principal