



Norbury Manor Business & Enterprise College for Girls

*Realising potential,
nurturing leaders
of the future*

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am pleased to inform you that we have eight candidates wishing to stand as parent governors at Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College for Girls. As we have two vacancies and more than two applicants there needs to be an election.

I have attached statements from each candidate to assist you in your decision making. Please read the instructions before submitting your vote using the Google form below.

Candidates are:

Sher Ali, parent to year 8 and year 9 students

Mohammed Islam, parent of a year 12 student

Jeffrey Greaves, parent of a year 10 student

Solomon Karmegan, parent to a year 11 student

Abdirisaaq Mohamed, parent of a year 7 student

Caroline Parker, parent to a year 9 student

Michelle Theophilus, parent to a year 11 student

Portia Singh, parent to a year 8 student

ELECTION OF TWO PARENT GOVERNORS: INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

1. The Google form link below is for the election of two parent governors.
2. Each candidate is eligible for one vote.
3. As there are two vacancies each voter may vote for up to two candidates.
4. The link is <https://forms.gle/mRwEfzVq1n1ZzvGF6>

The closing date and time for returning ballot papers is Friday 29th January at 12.00. The count will take place on the closing date at 14.30. If you have any enquiries, please contact me at dmccardie@nmbec.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D McCardie
PA to the Headteacher



ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR -Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College for Girls.

You may vote for up to TWO candidates:

Sher Ali

My application for Parent governor is influenced by my vested interest, this being the attendance of both my daughters and nieces. Over the years many relatives and friends have also passed through NMBEC and as a part of the local community for some 20 years, I feel that I resonate with much of the community, their mindsets, expectations, approaches and ethos.

As teacher and school leader I understand school dynamics well, including government expectations, financial implications, constraints, and the impact on students in the longer and short term – academically and socially.

I am an advocate for valuing all stakeholders as individuals, seeking to unlock student and teacher potential by highlighting and developing strengths. I strongly align with the NMBEC mission statement ‘*Realising potential, nurturing leaders of the future*’, and have demonstrated this through my current role.

Working within a single gender, Inner-London – outstanding Academy, our deprivation indicators have put no ceiling on what our students can and have achieved. As a teacher of Maths and Innovation leader, my role is heavily based upon the quality of Teaching and Learning across the Academy. In addition, as Initial Teacher Training/PGCE Lead I orchestrate the design and implementation of outstanding lesson planning and delivery with a proven track record of staff retention and well-being.

I maintain well respected relationships with teacher, students and parent alike by regular communication. I have exemplary planning and organisational skills that enable me to manage not only my teaching workload, but the additional duties mentioned above. This has tested my ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines and be proactive, resilient and flexible in addressing unforeseen circumstances.

I am a highly driven and structured individual who is acknowledged by my honesty, reliability and collaboration. I am passionate about providing solutions through adopting a situational approach. I am confident that I will positively contribute to the Manor Trust as a whole and am committed to developing confident, motivated and resilient, independent learners.

Jeffrey Greaves

I have over 20 years organisational and financial experience working in the Private and Public Sector. I have a proven track record of working with individuals and finding solutions in organisations from Sears Womenswear to Morgan Hunt.

I am a committed parent and active member of the Thornton Heath Community Action Trust “TCAT” who look at local issues and try to find workable solutions in partnership with Croydon Council. We are in unprecedented times and I want to help make things better for my daughter and all pupils in Norbury Manor. I am willing to listen, learn and use my experience to guide the school through this.

During lockdown over the summer, I was surprised Norbury Manor was not able to put on online classes for my daughter and it is only when I had a discussion with Mrs Hayden was the situation

explained. Maybe this should have been communicated to parents, maybe this could have been avoided altogether? As a parent governor these are the type of questions I will ask. I am a MAAT member of the Association of Accounting Technicians, so I am used to maintaining confidentiality. I am also willing to attend meetings, commit to training and visit Norbury Manor as and when required.

Mohammed Islam

My name is Mohammed Islam, I work as an Approved Driving Instructor with British School of Motoring (BSM). I have been a driving Instructor since 2007.

My daughter Nabeelah Sultana Islam is a pupil at Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College for girls. I am very keen to become a parent governor so that I can raise issues which are of concern to the pupils and parents, whilst also helping to represent the parents view during governors' meetings. As a parent I value education highly, and would work to keep the standard of education offered at Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College for girls to a high standard for the benefit of all pupils. As a school governor, I feel I could become part of the team that supports the Headteacher, staff and most importantly, the wellbeing and safety of all our children.

As a Driving Instructor I have very good one to one experience of teaching young students with very high standards of balanced lifelong multiple skills of driving to deal with the road and traffic conditions. I feel that I have the expertise and experience to enhance the Governing Body with my skills.

I currently Chair Croydon North Constituency Labour Party and Croydon North Ethnic Communities Forum for Labour. As Chair I have gained experience and personal skills that would contribute to helping the Board of Governors and our wider local community. I believe my calm and persuasive manner will ensure that the parent voice is heard. So, please vote for me and I will do all my very best to make a difference for you and your daughters.

Solomon Karmegen

A forward thinking Senior Executive with 20 years of experience, able to instil a shared sense of purpose to an organisation with a demonstrable ability to create pace-setting strategies to deliver tangible positive business outcomes. Has an exemplary track record in providing inspiring executive leadership to organisations by fusing business, financial and technology interests into cohesive, driven and focused strategic outcomes. Adept at forging critical relationships with stakeholders delivering industry leading solutions to businesses and clients alike. Has consistently demonstrated ability to materially enhance earnings by challenging existing practices and by driving 'the change equation' through coaching and empowering multi-disciplinary teams.

Abdirisaaq (Abdi) Ahmed Mohamed

I am applying for the position of parent governor because my previous experience and background make me a suitable candidate for this role.

I am a qualified secondary school teacher with more than 9 years of teaching experience. I worked in private and state secondary schools as well as post 16 institutions. I thus, understand the challenges school leaders and teaching staff face in delivering an education which caters for the needs of all pupils. I had the privilege of a leading a maths department which secured a GCSE past rate of over

90% in five successive years. I have the interpersonal skills to work well with others and to take lead in key projects. I have extensive experience of working with parents and cultivating a positive relationship which works for the benefit of their children.

As my daughter is only starting her journey at Norbury Manor, I have a vested interest in the school's future success. As a parent, I want my daughter to be in a supportive, pleasant, and academically progressive environment. She is joining the school at the age of 11 and could potentially be with you until the age of 19. This will be an especially important and memorable period of her life when she will transition from a child into a young adult. I want her to have the best possible experience and to be offered the support and tools to become the best version of herself. I want, as a parent and an educator, to contribute in any way I can to support the school.

Norbury Manor has a special significance for my family. I grow up in Norbury, attended Kensington Avenue Primary school and my sister and all female relatives in the area attended Norbury Manor girls. It has been the go-to local school and a pillar of the community for us. It is therefore important for all of us to see this great school continue to succeed and prosper.

I will be available to support the school regardless of my position and if I am selected as a parent governor, I will take the responsibility with utmost seriousness and work tirelessly to support the school.

Caroline Parker

Hello

I'm Caroline, mum to Arwen McCormack (yr 9) and her 20-year-old brother, who went to Dunraven School. During both my children's time at primary school I was involved with the PTA/PTFA of their respective schools, holding the positions of Secretary and Class Rep. I enjoyed the connection that this gave me with other parents and carers and also with the teaching team. I assisted in devising an inclusive voting process enabling both parents and teachers to suggest how the funds raised by the PTA got spent.

The majority of my career has been in the commercial realm. I'm currently in the Senior Leadership at Selfridges. My remit includes working with budgets and timelines; continually assessing the teams' ways of working to ensure optimum efficiency; team engagement with the business's vision and strategy; implementation of team member career development plans and monitoring individual's wellbeing.

What I can bring to the role of parent governor is an eye for detail; good communication skills (both verbal & written); the ability to question the 'norm' and challenge what good looks like; a good listening ear; loyalty (I have been at Selfridges 16½ years); discretion; an appreciation of people and what I hope is a sense of fun.

One of my mottos is the day I stop learning is the day I move on. As this would be a new role for me, I am grateful that training is provided to help me on my way to becoming an effective governor.

In terms of how I'd plan to contribute to the future work of the board, my initial thoughts are to first see how it all works – listen and learn and in time would hope to bring some fresh perspectives as and when needed. I am adaptable and relish new challenges.

I am now at a stage in my career where I have a better work/life balance and some time on my hands. I very much hope to use this time to learn new skills and to deploy those I already have to enrich the lives of those at Norbury Manor.

Portia Singh

I was born in Croydon and have lived here most of my adult life, so know the area very well. I am a teacher in FE, I trained at UCL. Meetings, confidentiality and ongoing training are all part and parcel

of my current work. I witness how much harder things are for students if they leave school without the requirements for university. I would like to see more NMBEC girls attain 5 or more GCSE's

I enjoy studying. As well as my PGCE I also have an MA. I am an inquisitive person and I very much like to learn new things. I will embrace any opportunities for training as I do for CPD at work.

I am particularly keen to see improved outcomes for the children, particularly with the legacy of lockdowns yet to be realised. I want to pick the brains of people in high attaining schools to understand the sources of their success and how our school can emulate them. I want to encourage teachers to demonstrate their ambition for the children, not only by giving regular homework, expecting it returned on time to a good standard and giving clear guidance about what is necessary to improve but also in reaching outside the school to take advantage of educational opportunities to learn about their country, society and the way it works.

My daughter is in year 8 and it seems there are specific issues with this intake that I would like to get to the bottom of. I want to listen to students and facilitate their voice as well as understand the perspectives of other parents and give voice to those too

Michelle Theophilus

In my suitability for the role of parent governor at NMBEC, I feel that my teaching experience spanning over 10 years providing secondary and further education teaching to students in a supportive and educational environment would benefit NMBEC. I have previously been a parent governor at a primary school setting, so understand and appreciate the importance of being a "critical friend" in the role of parent governor. I was on the curriculum team, looking at ways the current content and approach could be evaluated and improved for the students. I valued the opportunity to see behind the scenes as to some of the financial and management constraints that a school can sometimes face. This is particularly relevant in the current climate, factors have been presented to educational institutions, proving challenging times. Collaborating with key stakeholders in key to make a difference and build on existing skills and knowledge, to improve educational provision to meet a shared goals and objectives. In this role, I learnt the importance of working with teaching, non-teaching staff, management, and students to understand key issues and develop an understanding on the workings of in a school.

As a parent of a student of NMBEC, I have seen the progression of my daughter and feel that I have something to give to role in terms of my experience in teaching and from the perspective and experiences of a parent. She has valued the professional relationships and pastoral support she has received over the years. Although in her final year of the school, I still believe that I could provide support and work with others. I feel that also with my teaching in Business and over 20 years working in the computing/IT industry, working with students in an enterprise setting is a positive opportunity, to share what I have learnt. I am currently working at a prestigious surrey college setting as a course leader, so possess important skills and abilities, in team management, organizational and communication skills that could possibly benefit your setting. I hope that my own experiences and journeys through the UK the educational system would assist with my role as a parent governor for your school. I can commit and work professionally within a governing body.

Please submit your votes by noon on Friday 29th January 2021.