



Dear Parents

We currently have vacancies for new members on our **Local Academy Council (LAC)**.  
***Previously known as School Governor.***

Being a member of the Local Academy Council is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment. You will also be joining the largest volunteer force in the country.

Schools need boards that have a balance and diversity of knowledge, skills and experience to enable it to be effective. Ofsted has repeatedly noted that the most effective schools demonstrate effective leadership and management - including by Local Academy Councils.

Anyone aged over 18 can be a governor or trustee (but there are some exceptions) and you do not need to be a parent. There is no requirement for you to have an understanding of the education system, just the necessary skills, character and time to contribute. There is plenty of training available to help you learn about education. Schools needs and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing board including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change. Charnwood is looking for support in health and safety and safeguarding in particular.

As a member of the LAC, you will be able to:

- Use your own experience of education and life beyond school to inform conversations
- Develop and utilise your skills in a board-level environment
- Make a valuable contribution to education and your community
- Support and challenge the school so that it improves for pupils and staff
- Bring your unique experiences, perspectives and insights in to decision-making in the interests of the school community

**If you are interested please contact Mrs Stanley for an application form.**

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Stanley

(Principal)

## **What LAC members do?**

They provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools.

It has three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the Academy and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the principal to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

Governors or trustees set the aims and objectives for the school or group of schools and set the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives. They monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the principal. In action, this means:

- Appointing and performance reviewing the head teacher and senior leaders, including making decisions about pay
- Managing budgets and deciding how money is spent
- Engaging with pupils, staff, parents and the school community
- Sitting on panels and making decisions about things like pupil exclusions and staff disciplinary
- Addressing a range of education issues within the academy including disadvantaged pupils, pupils with special needs, staff workload and teacher recruitment
- Looking at data and evidence to ask questions and have challenging conversations about the academy

Governors and trustees must be prepared to adopt the Nolan principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.