

## Dudley Academies Trust

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Chair of Board of Trustees: Lowell Williams  
Chief Executive: Jo Higgins



Gill Darwood

Director of Corporate Governance

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Dear parent(s)/carer(s)

### Parent Governor Vacancy – St James Academy

We have a vacancy for a parent member of the local advisory committee of St James Academy and I would like to take this opportunity to explain a little about the role and encourage you to put your name forward.

#### The role of a parent governor

**Being a governor can be very rewarding, do not worry if you have no experience in education matters, as full training and support are available from Dudley Academies Trust.**

Most importantly, we welcome parent governors who have a passion for achieving the best possible educational experience for the children in our local community and are keen to work in a supportive but challenging way with the Senior Leadership of the school.

As a parent governor, you will play a particularly vital role in ensuring that the committee is connected with, and is aware of the views of, parents and the local community.

To be a parent governor you should have:

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children.
- Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills.

Meetings of the local advisory committee generally take place once per term starting at 5.30pm and last approximately 2 hours. In addition, we hold termly Trust-wide briefings and development sessions and these provide an opportunity for you to enhance your knowledge and network with members from other schools within the Trust. You will also need to be able to devote some time to preparing for meetings by reading papers provided in advance of meetings.

In addition, local governors are encouraged to play an active role in the life of the school by visiting the school and attending activities such as open evenings and celebration events.

Governors serve a four-year term of office and if you choose to, you can complete your term of office even if your child has since left the school.

(Continued)



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## Who can be a parent governor?

Every parent is entitled to be nominated as a Parent Governor and to vote in a Parent Governor Election. Someone who has parental responsibility or day-to-day care of a pupil is also eligible to serve and to vote.

Parents or carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 hours per academic year or more are not eligible to stand for election.

## How to apply

If you're interested in applying for the role, please complete the nomination form at the link below which includes a short statement outlining why you would like to be a governor. If we receive more applications than there are vacancies, an election will be held and ballot papers for this will be sent to all parents and carers. **Please note that the closing date for nominations to be received is 5.00pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please don't hesitate to contact Gill Darwood, Director of Corporate Governance for the Trust via email [gill.darwood@dudleycol.ac.uk](mailto:gill.darwood@dudleycol.ac.uk)

[Click on this link to access the nomination form](#)

Alternatively, scan the following QR code:



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G Darwood".

GILL DARWOOD  
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE