

Thank you for taking the time to read my application for the role as parent governor. Both my children started the Westgate school in year 7, my daughter is currently in year 13 and my son in year 10. During their time at the Westgate school, I have seen them both develop into independent confident learners, the skills they have learned so far stand them in good stead for the future.

My motivation for this application is to be part of the voice that leads and supports the school to continue to deliver an excellent level of education for our future generations. I have had the pleasure of already completing a term of office as a parent governor and have taken on the roles of link governor for SEND (special educational needs and disabilities), link governor for inclusion and diversity and recently the role as vice chair to the governing board. I embrace the opportunity to stand for election again.

As a university lecturer and registered midwife, I work in highly emotional heavy workload environments, so I have the skills of active listening, empathy, and resilience. In my role I encourage lifelong learning and the development of functional life skills. I am organised and able to handle the pressure of multiple time limits and demands.

Recently I updated my Mental Health First Aider competence and was surprised and shocked to discover how many children/ young adults are affected by poor mental health and that simple signs are often missed, to the detriment of mental wellbeing for the future. By being a parent governor, I would like to have insight into the school provision for ensuring the whole wellbeing of the students but also the work force that supports the students. As a link for SEND and inclusion/ diversity, I wish for all students to reach their full potential in a supportive, non-judgmental, environment that promoted equity and representation for all.

Due to my previous term of office, I understand the level of commitment needed, and feel I can commit to another term of office whilst I have a child the school.

Mrs Samantha Harrison