12 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Local Governing Body: Election of a Parent Governor

We seek to elect a new Parent Governor to our Local Governing Body. This is a voluntary role for a four-year term. Parent Governors continue to serve even if their child leaves the school during this period.

What do Governors do?

Harrogate Grammar School is part of a Multi Academy Trust, The Red Kite Learning Trust (RKLT). Whilst our Trustees have overall responsibility for all the schools in the Trust, the Local Governing Body (LGB) works directly with the Headteacher and staff at HGS. The LGB focusses on the quality of education delivered by the school for the young people it serves.

Members of the LGB meet 5 times a year and may also be called up to join panels. They can also act as link governors for areas of the school. Members of the LGB play a key role, bringing their own skills and experiences that complement those of other governors and the school leadership team. Governors hold leaders to account, provide challenge and contribute to the strategic direction of the school within the values, goals, and mission of the Red Kite Learning Trust.

We seek governors who ask questions and who are curious about the overall quality of education of *all* children in the school. To that end, we seek governors who are willing to visit the school during the school day to meet with children and staff. We also encourage governors to come along to school activities, plays, concerts, sports events etc., as these form such an important part of the overall educational provision and give insight into the culture of our school.

The role of a Parent Governor

As a Parent Governor, you will work with the board to focus on:

1. Curriculum and quality of education
2. Culture, behaviour, and attitudes
3. Excellence for every child, safeguarding, equality, inclusion, and diversity
4. Community, links, and contribution

We would never expect governors to manage or lead the school at an operational level. Insights from other sectors can be useful, but governors should contribute positively with ‘eyes on, hands off’ approach. As a Parent Governor, you will play a vital role in bringing a **parental perspective** to the governing board, but you are not there to speak on behalf of the parent body or specifically your own child.

To be a Parent Governor you should have:

- A firm commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children, equality, diversity, and inclusion
- Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills
- No specific skills are required

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Expectations of Governors

These include:

- Attendance at meetings
- Maintaining confidentiality
- Undertaking the required Governor training
- Spending time in school
- Commitment to a 4-year term of office
- Pre-reading before meetings
- Curiosity and asking effective questions
- Governors not parents
- Governors not managers

How to apply?

1. If you are interested in applying for the role, we encourage you to contact toulsona@hgs.rklt.co.uk to arrange for you to discuss the role and the work of a Governor.
2. We ask you to complete this form by 9.00am on Tuesday 1 December 2026.

If we receive more applications than there are vacancies, we will carry out a secret ballot. We will inform you closer to the time if we must do this.

Result of the Election

The name of the parents elected will be emailed to all parents and they will be included on our website.

Thank you for your interest in this role and continued support of our school.

Yours sincerely



Mr Neil Renton
Headteacher