



Barnsole Primary School

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**Executive Headteacher – Mr D Marsh
Headteacher – Mr J Smales**

Thursday 23rd April 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

ELECTION OF PARENT COUNCILLOR

I am delighted to be able to invite parents, guardians, and carers of registered pupils to put their names forward for election to serve as a Parent Councillor of this school. There are two parent vacancies.

All parents over the age of 18 are eligible to stand for election and to vote with the exception of:

- (i) those who are employed to work at the school for more than 500 hours in an academic year
- (ii) those who are ineligible, as listed In Appendix 1

The Maritime Academy Trust's overarching aim and vision are for our schools to deliver an outstanding education for children and young people. We endeavour to ensure that all our pupils have access to the highest standards of teaching, resources and opportunities.

The Trust appreciates that all Councillors at our schools are volunteers who give up their spare time and bring their valuable expertise and experience to support the Trust and its schools. The Trust aims for impactful Governance, meeting all statutory obligations while also supporting the needs of the school and its local community and is worthwhile for all participants.

Before you decide to nominate someone or stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Councillors need not be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school, and its community, have a desire to achieve the highest standards of education for the children at the school. The specific skills you may have could be very useful to the Local Academy Council. Councillors also need what is known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All Councillors are expected to be able to read straightforward reports and data on school standards.

The Trust expects Councillors to:

- Attend three to four meetings of the full Local Academy Council each academic year
- Visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least twice a year

- Visit the school informally as necessary
- Commit to attend training courses, perform additional research as required and take part in monitoring specific areas within the school

In return, we commit to the following:

- Provide you with a structured induction;
- Provide access to quality training and development;

If you would like to put your name forward, please complete the Councillors application form: which can be accessed by:

Clicking this link: <https://forms.gle/PPaSgiPTiP1HUkws7>

Please ensure you complete your application by Friday 8th May.

If it is necessary for there to be an election, I will provide further details of the arrangements.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Smales
Headteacher

