



## KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL, LICHFIELD

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Headteacher: Mrs C Forster

12 February 2025

### Parent Governor - Ballot

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to provide you with an important update regarding the election for a parent governor at King Edward VI School.

I wrote to you on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to invite nominations for a vacancy for a parent governor. I am delighted to say that there has been a good response and there are seven candidates for the position. Consequently, it is necessary for us to hold a ballot to determine the successful candidate.

Attached to this email, you will find the personal statements from each candidate. Each candidate was asked to provide a statement of up to **250 words**, which has been included in the attachment in alphabetical order by surname. I encourage you to take the time to read through these statements to make an informed decision.

All parents and carers with students currently enrolled at King Edward VI School are eligible to vote in this election. Voting can be completed easily by filling out the brief form available at the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/4sSubxf5r0>. You may vote for **one** candidate only. Please note that each parent or carer can submit **one** form, irrespective of the number of children attending the school. The deadline for submitting your vote is **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**.

If you are unable to vote electronically, you may request a paper ballot form from *Samantha Jones*, Clerk to the Governors, at [sjones@keslichfield.org.uk](mailto:sjones@keslichfield.org.uk).

The election will be conducted based on a simple majority of the votes cast. Once the election is concluded, we will promptly inform you of the outcome.

Thank you for your participation in this important process. Your engagement is vital to the success of our school governance.

Warm regards,

Catherine Forster  
Headteacher and Returning Officer

## Candidates' personal statements

### Carol Campbell

As a Managing Director, C-Suite Operator and Executive Coach, I have committed in my career to strategic leadership, and fostering environments where individuals and organisations can excel. I would love the opportunity to apply these skills to support King Edwards as the values of wellbeing, collaboration and aspiration are so aligned with my own and this experience.

However, so much more than my professional experience, I am a mother, a wife, a friend, a member of our community, and as such I believe that by promoting self respect and respect for others, we can create a nurturing environment where students are motivated to achieve success and enjoy their educational journey.

My background in business + coaching, equips me to contribute effectively to the School's ethos of respect, discipline, honesty, tolerance and support, plus responsibility. The responsibility I would love to commit to is the chance to work collaboratively with educators and the senior community to ensure KES continues to provide the best environment for young people to grow and develop their own potential. I would love the privilege of being a parent governor and learning from the other governors and the School for my own personal development and dedication to being a life-long learner. Best wishes Carol.

### Mark Coleman

Having lived in Lichfield for over 20 years, I have a deep connection to the local community and a vested interest in the success of our schools. As a parent with two children currently attending King Edwards - one in Year 7 and one in Year 10 (and a third coming up through the ranks in primary - I am personally invested in ensuring that the school provides the best possible education and support for all students.

As a business leader who founded and is successfully scaling a local company, I have developed key skills in leadership, strategic planning, and financial management. These experiences would enable me to contribute effectively to the governance of the school, ensuring that it continues to thrive while making informed decisions for the long-term benefit of students and staff.

In addition to my business background, my work as a Scout Leader and Cricket Coach has reinforced my commitment to helping young people grow, work together, and reach their potential. I am passionate about making a positive difference and would bring this focus to the role of parent governor, striving to create an inclusive and supportive environment for all students and staff. I am eager to contribute my skills and experiences to support the school in its ongoing success and ensure every child and young person is given the opportunity to succeed.

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## Hannah Gallimore

I'm putting myself forward for re-election as Parent Governor as I feel I've made a real contribution to school but there is more value I can add. First elected in January 2021 on the back of the pandemic, young people were facing educational and social challenges as a result of lockdown, increasing inequality and rising unemployment. As a parent and representative of a local business with strong community ties, I wanted to help school rebuild and I believe there is still more to do.

Schools are so much more than the subjects they teach – dealing with gaps left by the pandemic, safeguarding and wellbeing, responding to new and changing threats and opportunities presented by technology, employment markets and economic and political changes.

I grew up in Cambridgeshire, attended University in Essex (LLB Hons) and Birmingham (Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice), I now live in Lichfield with my husband, we have four children, three at King Edwards. I've worked in professional services, hospitality and resource/project management and I've been very happy at Lichfield-based Central Co-op as Social Change Manager for the last 8 years.

As an avid learner, parent and local employer with extensive experience in community partnerships, sustainability and inclusion I am pleased to have had the opportunity to support the school and students through the work of the Governing Body and as career and sixth form link Governor I'm pleased with the progress made towards building a careers offering that allows all students to find their path.

## Katie Millington

As the mother of a child in Year 7 at King Edward VI School, I would value the opportunity to bring my skills, experience, and passion for education and mental health to the role of Parent Governor.

I am an experienced Education Mental Health Practitioner with a background in teaching and leadership, having previously served as a Head of Department in a secondary school. I am passionate about providing young people with the skills and knowledge to manage their own well-being so that they can navigate life's challenges with resilience, build positive relationships, develop confidence and independence, engage fully in their education and continue to thrive into adulthood.

My professional role requires assessing and formulating mental health needs of children and young people, handling caseloads of varying complexities, and working collaboratively with families, schools, and external agencies. I contribute to a whole-school approach by supporting staff training, policy development, and fostering a mentally healthy school environment. Additionally, I offer consultation to schools to help them support students effectively, while prioritising safeguarding by identifying risks, stepping up care when necessary, and ensuring that young people receive the right level of support.

These experiences have equipped me with the ability to make informed, child-centred decisions. As a Parent Governor, I would be confident in holding leadership to account while also working collaboratively to support the school in maintaining high standards of education and an environment where all students feel supported and valued and every child can achieve their full potential.

[Continued on next page](#)

## Ashley Sarangi

I am a civil servant at the Foreign Office where I lead the UK's global humanitarian work with the United Nations and Red Cross, and sit on the governance boards of these international organisations. While I have worked in international development for 20 years and lived in many different countries, I am also a qualified UK Chartered Accountant with considerable experience in financial control and oversight.

I was born in Burton and went to school in Staffordshire, and have degrees from Oxford University and the London School of Economics. My own educational journey has deeply shaped my belief in the transformative power of education and I am passionate about ensuring every child has access to a well-rounded, high-quality education and can achieve their aspirations.

We live in Lichfield and I am the proud parent of a son in Year 8 and a daughter who will join King Edward's next school year. Supporting my children in their education, particularly during Covid when they were out of school for 18 months, has been eye opening and rewarding, and I am keen to contribute more widely to the school.

As a Parent Governor I believe my professional background and educational experience would complement the current Board membership. I would particularly look to support the school in areas of financial oversight, strategic decision-making and in educational excellence. While I have a demanding day job, I have volunteering leave and enough flexibility to be able to attend meetings regularly.

## Victoria Wilkes

I would be delighted to have the opportunity to serve as a parent governor. I have lived in Lichfield all my life and attended the school myself from age 11 to 18. My son joined Year 7 last year and his younger sister will hopefully join the school in 2028.

I am passionate about education and qualifications, having worked in the sector for most of my career. Currently, I work for Ofqual, which is responsible for maintaining standards and confidence in GCSE, A level and vocational qualifications in England. I work closely with the Department for Education and have a strong understanding of education and assessment. I also have a child with special educational needs and have a particular interest in this area.

As a governor, I would be committed to supporting the school's focus on student and staff wellbeing, and ensuring that all students have the opportunity to thrive, not only academically but in the wider social and extracurricular aspects of school life.

My day job focuses on governance so I understand the requirements of the governor role and the positive impact that effective governance can have. I attend meetings with senior leaders and am not afraid to constructively challenge where necessary. I have experience of drafting and reviewing policies and procedures and managing budgets, which I could bring to the role of governor.

I would welcome the opportunity to join the Governing Board and to play an active part in ensuring the continued success of the school.

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## Clare Woodall

Hello, I'm Clare. My son is in Year 7 at KES and I have a daughter at primary school. I would love to serve as a parent governor, bringing 20 years' experience as a teacher.

I am Deputy Head of Sixth Form in an Ofsted rated Outstanding school and have previously headed departments at other Outstanding schools. Having served as a primary school governor, I understand that the role is to be supportive while holding senior staff to account for the performance of a school and its pupils.

I love school trips and I strongly believe that our children should have more whole-year opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. Experiences such as trips should be available to everyone, not just those selected through a ballot. An annual enrichment trips week, taking advantage of many free opportunities in our local area, and/or a residential in the summer term, would give students the chance to experience new things alongside their friends.

I am passionate about consistency and this would be a priority for me as a governor. I advocate for this in how behaviour points are awarded, how homework is managed, and how opportunities are offered to each student, ensuring that every child has access to the same high-quality experiences.

I am very keen to support the already excellent work the school does and share my experience of what makes a school exceptional for its pupils. I want to make this time in our children's lives a happy and rewarding one.