

PERSONAL STATEMENT: LAURA GRIMES

This is my first time standing for the role of Parent Governor. I have children in attendance at Fatfield, in nursery and Year 1, and although I do not have direct experience of being a parent governor, I feel that I can bring value to the role, through my professional experience as a governance and assurance specialist, working for a Public Sector Government organisation.

I am a strong advocate of the school and feel strongly about supporting the leadership team in not only continuing to deliver their vision to provide a nurturing, inspirational environment and to maintain the good quality of education provided to our children, but also help to deliver on required outcomes highlighted in the most recent Ofsted inspection (1. ensuring teachers consistently challenge the most able and that 2. they continue to work hard to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils).

I can add value to the governance team by drawing on my professional governance and assurance experience in activities such as establishing policies and objectives, drawing up development plans, setting school budgets and monitoring expenditure, and producing and monitoring action plans, as well as establishing a Performance Management Policy and ensuring accountability.

Whilst my professional career is not directly linked to education, the same public sector governance principles can be applied and where there are skills gaps from an educational perspective, I feel that my passion and drive to improve the educational setting for not just my own children, but all pupils at Fatfield Academy, will compensate for this.

On a personal level, I am a respectful individual who listens to and gives time to others in group discussions, taking on board others' views in a professional way but I am also confident enough to speak up and challenge constructively, when needed. I feel I would provide balanced parent governor input to group discussions and ensure meetings deliver the outcomes needed to support the school achieve its objectives.

Overall, I feel I can offer the right balance of professional input and parental judgement to be successful in this role.