

7 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Election for Parent Governor position on Aspirations South Central Regional Board

The Aspirations Academies Trust is looking to appoint a Primary Parent Governor to the Regional Board that forms the local governing body for your child's school. The academies that are governed in this region that have primary age range pupils are:

Primary Academies	
Dashwood Banbury Academy	Harriers Banbury Academy

As there were more nominations for the Primary Parent Governor position than there are vacancies, we are now giving the opportunity to all parents and carers who have a primary age child or children at one of the above academies to vote for one of the candidates.

The candidates for the Primary Parent Governor position are:

Ben Halliwell
David Barton

Please can I ask you to read the profiles for each candidate and then vote for one candidate using the online link <https://forms.gle/RAvk3xa2GWLxUVmy9> or the form provided which can be returned by post or in person to the school office.

On the form, we ask you to confirm the name and year group of your child only in order to establish your eligibility to vote. Each parent or person of parental responsibility has a single vote for one Primary Parent Governor candidate regardless of how many primary children they have in an Aspirations academy.

All ballot returns are kept confidential and are reported anonymously.

The closing date for votes is **3.30pm on Wednesday 16th November 2022**. This applies both for votes recorded online and for the receipt of hard copy votes either posted or brought in person to the school office.

Notification of the successful candidate will be made on the websites of the relevant academies by Wednesday 23rd November 2022 unless there is a tie and it becomes necessary to conduct a further election process.

Yours faithfully

John Reece
Director of HR & Compliance

Ballot Form & Candidate Profile for Primary Parent Governor for South Central Regional Board

Please read the profiles below of the two candidates. You are entitled to vote for one candidate.

Complete your vote online at <https://forms.gle/RAvk3xa2GWLxUVmy9> by **3.30pm on Wednesday 16th November 2022** or complete and return this form by post or in person, addressed to the “*Parent Governor Election Clerk*” to be received at the school office of your child’s academy no later than **3.30pm on Wednesday 16th November 2022**.

PRIMARY CANDIDATE PROFILE Mark X in the ‘vote’ column against your choice of candidate (one vote only)	VOTE
<p>Name: Ben Halliwell</p> <p>Statement: My daughter is currently in Year 1 at Dashwood Banbury Academy and has flourished in the setting; benefitting from the quality of teaching staff, varied curriculum, and sense of community. The values and ethos promoted by the Trust truly allow the students to thrive and express themselves; encapsulated no less by their mission statement of “Growing Together; Succeeding Together”.</p> <p>I am currently working as the Group Procurement Manager for Activate Learning, where I am responsible for the buying strategy of the organisation. Activate Learning provide further and higher education across their seven colleges, including our own Banbury College. Prior to this, I worked in the Utilities industry for over 10 years. My work experience has provided me with a key attention to detail, developed my communication and negotiation skills, and allowed me to influence business decision making at a strategic level. In my current role, I am part of the Sustainability Committee; supporting with the carbon reduction and net zero mission.</p> <p>I wish to become a Parent Governor for the Aspirations Academies Trust as I fully advocate their values, ethos, and mission. I feel I can positively contribute to maintaining their high standards, and support with taking them forward and enhancing them. I am eager to learn and help with any challenges being faced by the Trust, and I believe my experiences would be beneficial in doing so.</p>	
<p>Name: David Barton</p> <p>Statement: I would like to join the governing body for Aspirations Academies in the South Central Region as a parent of two children - aged 8 and 3 - currently in year 3 and pre-school at Harriers Banbury Academy.</p> <p>It has always been important to me to play an active role in school life and the local community by volunteering at school trips and attending events. I would continue to do this as a governor by supporting both schools in maintaining and developing their excellent reputations. I have also previously sat on the organising committee of Cherwell Business Awards, a local not-for-profit organisation dedicated to highlighting the success of the region’s business and charity community.</p> <p>Although I have no direct experience of school governance specifically, my day job in events production involves several skills that are transferable to this role including budget management, project planning, and the need to make tough decisions and ask difficult questions when necessary.</p> <p>I passionately believe that it is important to ensure that all children are empowered to fulfil their potential regardless of their background, and am keen to support both schools and their dedicated staff to achieve this goal.</p>	
<p>Your Name: _____ Your Child’s Name: _____</p> <p>Academy: _____ Year/Tutor Group _____</p>	