



Recruitment Pack

Parent Governor

Wallington High School for Girls
January 2026



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WELCOME

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in the post of Parent Governor on the Local Governing Body at Wallington High School for Girls (WHSG)

WHSG is a member of The Girls' Learning Trust (GLT). GLT was formed in September 2015 and comprises three successful and high-performing girls' schools: Wallington High School for Girls, Nonsuch High School for Girls and Carshalton High School for Girls. All three schools are located in the London Borough of Sutton. We have over 4,500 students aged 11-18 and almost 500 staff, with a financial turnover of £30m, operating over three large sites. Our aim is to empower girls and young women by delivering a first-class education and provide an inspirational start to their futures.

Volunteering as a Parent Governor is a rewarding experience and an opportunity to contribute to the success of WHSG. The role of the Local Governing Body (LGB) is to oversee and monitor the activity of the school in relation to school performance and student experience, as well as contributing to the wider Trust strategy.

I hope you find this recruitment pack useful, and if you would like to arrange a call with me or WHSG's Headteacher, contact details are provided at the end of this pack.

Kind regards

Alison Sleight

Chair of WHSG Local Governing Body

Tracey O'Brien

Headteacher, WHSG



The Opportunity

Why should you apply for the role of Parent Governor at Wallington High School for Girls?

Wallington is a highly successful and selective grammar school for girls aged between 11 and 18 years and was rated 'Outstanding' at its most recent Ofsted inspection, which praised the high standards across the school, enabling girls to achieve.

Alexis Williamson-Jones joined as Headteacher in September 2024, having previously worked as Deputy Head at WHSG for four years.

The work of the school is overseen by its Local Governing Body (LGB), which provides effective challenge and support to the Headteacher to deliver a high quality education, as well as oversight of the School Development Plan.

The benefits of being a Parent Governor

Being a Parent Governor is an excellent opportunity to contribute your skills to the school and its community, as well as being an opportunity for professional and personal development. As a Parent Governor, you will develop an understanding of how to analyse and use data, how to manage different stakeholders, how to navigate challenges and how to think and act strategically. You will also gain a good understanding of the education sector and experience of governance meetings.

The role of a Parent Governor is not to be a representative of parents but to ensure that parent voice is considered within decision-making.

As a governor, you will also be able to see the impact of your volunteering on the school community. Whether that is through ensuring that there is a positive school culture through the policies that are approved and students going on a life-changing school trip that the LGB gave support to, the contribution of the governors to the school community is vital.

Person Specification

The principles and personal attributes that individuals bring to our Local Governing Bodies are as important as their skills and knowledge. These qualities enable members to use their skills and knowledge to function well as part of a team, and make an active contribution to effective governance. All members of our Local Governing Bodies are expected to exhibit the [seven principles of public life \(the Nolan principles\)](#) in all our work.

We are looking for an individual who can:

- Think strategically to contribute to the development of the school
- Provide appropriate challenge and support to the Headteacher
- Contribute to discussions and reflect on different points of view
- Analyse and interpret data and statistics relating to school performance

Additionally, experience and/or understanding of the education sector would be welcomed in applications.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title	Parent Governor
Reporting To	Local Governing Body
Type of Role	Voluntary / Governance
Time Commitment	3 x Local Governing Body meetings a year (in person) Voluntary engagement in between meetings on ad-hoc issues

The Local Governing Body is a delegated committee of the Trust Board and is the local link between the School and the Trust Board. The Local Governing Body provides governance at a local level and will provide challenge and support to the Headteacher on school-level issues.

The Local Governing Body is responsible for oversight of the performance of the school and monitoring of its development plan, as well as local compliance with Trust policies and procedures.

Duties and Responsibilities

The Trust Board has delegated the following duties and responsibilities to the LGB (in line with the Scheme of Delegation)

- The school's curriculum;
- Attendance;
- Special Educational Needs and Pupil Premium students;
- Safeguarding in line with Trust policy;
- Health and safety in line with Trust policy;

A full role description for governors can be found in our [Governance Handbook](#).

Time Commitment

The LGB meets at least three times a year in person at the school. Governors are expected to read the meeting papers in advance, which we estimate is about two hours per meeting. Governors must also undertake mandatory training prior to starting in role, which will take around four hours.

What is the difference between a Trustee and a Parent Governor?

WHSG is part of The Girls' Learning Trust and its trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust and its schools, as well as finances and school performance. Governors on the Local Governing Body provide the crucial link between the Trust and its schools, ensuring that there is oversight of school performance, understanding of local issues and that the Local Governing Body is a critical friend to the Headteacher.

The role of governors in a school is not operational and not about managing the school or the Headteacher but governors work closely with the Headteacher as part of the role. The Local Governing Body is not the Parent-Teacher Association.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Safeguarding

The Girls' Learning Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Candidates are expected to demonstrate a sound understanding of leadership of and contribution to a safeguarding environment. The successful candidate will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS with barred list check followed by safeguarding training as part of their induction.

Data Protection

As part of our recruitment process, Girls' Learning Trust collects and processes personal data relating to applicants. The Trust is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations. For further information about this and to read our Data Protection and Freedom of Information Policy, please visit: www.girlslearningtrust.org/our-governance/policies

The role of Parent Governor is an **elected** one. By submitting your supporting statement through this application form, you are putting yourself forward for election.

The Parent Governor election will be open to all parents at Wallington High School for Girls.

In order to be eligible, you **must** be a parent of a student or have parental responsibility for a student at Wallington High School for Girls. The term of office is for four years.

If your child is a student at WHSG and ceases to be so before your term of office ends, you will not be eligible for re-election. However, if your child is still a student at WHSG when your term of office ends, you will be eligible for re-election if you wish to stand.

By submitting your application, you confirm you are a parent of a child at WHSG.

To apply

Please send a supporting statement of up to 500 words about why you think you would be a good candidate for this role to Helen Palmer, Headteacher's PA at hpalmer@wallingtongirls.org.uk by the application deadline.

If you have any questions about the role, please contact governance@girlslearningtrust.org

Timeline

Nominations open: Monday 12th January 2026

Nominations close: Monday 26th January 2026

Voting opens: Wednesday 28th January 2026

Voting closes: Wednesday 11th February 2026

All candidates will be notified of the outcome of the election as soon as possible and the successful candidate will be contacted about onboarding and induction to the Local Governing Body.



Girls' Learning Trust
www.girlslearningtrust.org