

Friday 1st December 2023

Parent Governor Elections

Dear Parent/Carer,

There are three vacancies for parent governors on the governing body. The following parents have been nominated; **Chloe Charlton, Jez Farmer, Angie Farrance and Daniel Seeby.**

Here are their personal statements:

Chloe Charlton

I am writing to express my sincere interest in standing for the position of Parent Governor at Marlborough Science Academy.

My professional background in Compliance and Governance has equipped me with valuable skills in data protection, risk, policy, legislation, and standards. I am confident that these skills, combined with my passion for education, will enable me to make a meaningful contribution as a Parent Governor.

My previous career included working within local Primary and Secondary Schools delivering physical education and dance classes which allowed me to gain a good understanding of the educational system at an operational level.

I am a committed parent of 2 children in attendance at Marlborough who values education and believes in the importance of a strong partnership between parents, teachers, and the school leadership team. Having been actively involved in various school activities and events, I have witnessed first-hand the positive impact that an engaged parent community can have on the overall educational experience of our children.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve as a Parent Governor and work collaboratively with the existing governing body to contribute to the ongoing improvement and success of Marlborough Science Academy.

Jez Farmer

My name is Jez Farmer, I have two children at Marlborough and it has been my privilege to have been a governor here for the last 4 years. I am the link governor for Science, sit on the Finance and Curriculum committees, and I'm occasionally involved in complaint resolution too. I also do the fun stuff such as celebrating student achievements, attending student presentations, tasting school dinners and helping with MFest...

As a governor I try to encourage and support the school team, offer criticism where necessary whilst encouraging progress at every opportunity. As Link Governor I'm regularly visiting during school hours, allowing me to see the school's inner workings and understand its culture and ambitions.



However, I believe it's essential that I bring an independent view and opinion that comes from being a parent and working outside education.

I hope the next few years will see less upheaval than Covid and home schooling, but I'm in no doubt that there will be many challenges and many more wonderful opportunities for the school and its community.

I would love the opportunity to continue as a governor and remain committed to helping the school be the best it can be.

Angie Farrance

I have a daughter who has recently joined in Yr7, with another daughter in Yr5 at Killigrew. We live close to the school, having been local all our lives and I love how Marlborough feels like part of the community. I volunteer as an assistant scout leader which is brilliant, and sometimes terrifying. For this, I have taken lots of training, which should be relevant to this role.

I work as a senior policy officer for arts and culture in London. We work on projects with Govt, the NHS, academia, and councils so I'm used to navigating complex environments with determination and positive energy. I always ask questions and am very happy to challenge the status quo. I passionately believe in the power of creativity to support the good mental health and well-being of children and young people. I've seen first-hand how engagement with culture can help them to be kinder, more inclusive, confident and resilient.

My background is in communications and PR; I have a broad awareness of youth policy but am keen to learn more. I get three days volunteering leave a year and I work four days a week, so have time to get involved as needed.

Daniel Seeby

I have lived in St Albans all my life (44 years) and I have two children attending Marlborough Science Academy, and I strongly believe in schools being the heart of the community.

I have been working in the banking sector for 25 years and currently work in real estate finance for a bank in London, where I regularly liaise with board level members, including presenting to the board.

I have been a football coach for the past seven years and am currently a football coach to a number of the boys in year 11 at Marlborough. In my spare time, I enjoy sport (watching and playing), gardening, DIY.

Marlborough's values and ethos, Dignity, Kindness, Compassion, Courage and Endeavour, are very much aligned to my own values.

I am passionate about the next generation and them having the best start to adult life and that starts at secondary school through the positive influence teachers/adults can have on the children to succeed and grow in to well rounded individuals.

I would very much look forward to making a positive contribution to Marlborough Science Academy and getting involved in the school community to provide excellent education for our children.



Only the parents of a student currently registered at the school may vote. For the purpose of the election of a parent governor:

“Parent” is defined for the purposes of the Constitution Regulations as including “any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18”. It includes a person who the child lives with or who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. The reference in the definition must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.

Voting instructions:

1. Votes can be submitted either via email or by paper.
2. Each parent is entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of vacancies e.g. one vacancy one vote; two vacancies two votes but only one vote can be used per candidate.
3. To record your vote place an X against the name of the candidate(s) you would like to see elected.
4. **If returning your ballot via email:**

Please complete and save the document as Ballot Form and return it to Miss S Smith, administrator for the election, via s.smith@marlborough.herts.sch.uk. In the subject box of your email please enter Parent Governor Ballot Paper and type your full name in the body of the email (these details will be used to check that you are eligible to vote in the election, once this has been confirmed the ballot will be saved anonymously in a separate, secure area).

PLEASE DO NOT SIGN OR PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BALLOT PAPER.

5. **If returning a paper ballot:**

Please put the completed ballot paper in a blank envelope and seal it.

DO NOT SIGN EITHER THE BALLOT PAPER OR THE ENVELOPE.

Put this envelope into another envelope. On the second envelope write your name in BLOCK LETTERS, your son/daughter's name and form. This is to identify who has returned the Ballot slip. The ballot can be posted or hand delivered to school via the main reception, we will record the fact that you have voted and the unmarked envelope will be placed in the ballot box.

6. Ballot papers must be submitted by **2pm on Wednesday 13th December.**

If you would like us to provide envelopes for submitting a paper ballot please email Miss S Smith, s.smith@marlborough.herts.sch.uk, and we will pass these onto your son/daughter as soon as possible.

The votes will be counted at school immediately after the close of the election, in the presence of the candidates or their representatives, Ms Thomson and myself.

We will notify you of the result as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Walker-Smith

Mrs J Walker-Smith
Chair of Governors

