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2 October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Parent Governors Election

I wrote to you in September to invite nominations for the vacancies for parent governors.

As we have more candidates than vacancies, we must now hold a ballot. Voting will take place online using Microsoft Forms. Each parent is entitled to one vote. To cast your vote:

1. Click on the link below
2. Enter your child's name and form group
3. Read the candidate statements carefully
4. Select up to two candidates by ticking the boxes next to their names
5. Click 'Submit' to cast your vote

[Parent Governor Election 2026 – Fill in form](#)

You may vote for up to two of the candidates.

Please note: To prevent duplicate voting, we will ask for your child's name on the online form. This means votes will not be fully anonymous online to the administrator who processes the results, though results will be reported anonymously to the governing board and wider school community.

If you would prefer a fully anonymous paper ballot, please contact the school office by 12 October 2026 and we will send the ballot paper and two envelopes home through your child. Instructions for completing and returning the paper ballot will be included.

Please only vote once, using either the online form or a paper ballot – not both. If you request a paper ballot, please do not also vote online.

The deadline for voting is Friday 16 October 2026 at 4.00pm.

Please read the candidate statements attached to this letter before casting your vote.

If you have any queries about this process, please contact the school office by email on info@cardinalheenan.com.

Yours sincerely

D Kelly
Headteacher



CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

RACHEL CAULFIELD

I'd love to put myself forward for the role of Parent Governor. My family has been part of this school for a few years, and I've seen first-hand the difference it makes to pupils' confidence, wellbeing and achievement. As a parent, I know what really matters to pupils and family's day to day. Professionally, I work at IRIS Software Group, with experience across people leadership, finance and technology. I'm comfortable challenging budgets and financial reports, so I could help scrutinise spending and value for money. I've also handled recruitment and restructures, giving me a good feel for staffing matters, and I'd bring a practical view on using technology safely and well. I'm keen to contribute to the school's wider strategy, helping make sure plans stay ambitious, realistic and reflective of what parents and the community want. Safeguarding and pupil wellbeing matter hugely to me, especially mental health and social media safety for teenagers. I'd also love to help with AI, embracing the benefits, like saving staff time, while staying alert to the risks around safeguarding and plagiarism. I'll bring good judgement and a team-player attitude. Being a governor is a real position of trust and responsibility, and I am committed to giving it the time it needs.

DANIEL FURNISS

As a parent of a pupil who has recently joined Cardinal Heenan High School, I would be honoured to serve as a Parent Governor and contribute to the school community. I bring experience from three perspectives: as a parent, as a former secondary school teacher and senior leader, and through my current role supporting schools across a local authority. With 20 years' experience in education, I have developed a strong understanding of teaching and learning, school improvement, safeguarding, curriculum development and supporting young people to achieve their full potential. I currently work for Bradford Council's Careers and Technical Education service, supporting schools to improve careers education and help young people achieve positive destinations. I work with school leaders, teachers, employers, colleges and universities to create opportunities that raise aspirations and improve outcomes. I also have governance experience as a former teacher governor and current local authority co-opted governor at a specialist alternative provision school. These roles have strengthened my understanding of governance, accountability and strategic leadership. As a governor, I would bring educational expertise, strategic insight and a collaborative approach, listening to pupils and parents, providing constructive challenge and ensuring their best interests remain at the heart of every decision.

ROSIE HANLEY

I would like to nominate myself as a parent governor. I have been a parent governor at St Urban's since 2018 and I am now a Foundation Governor there. During my time as a governor at St Urban's, I have been Chair and Vice Chair of the Governing Body and Chair of the Teaching Learning and Pupil Support Committee. I have also been English, Phonics, Maths, Attendance and Special Needs Governor. These roles involve meeting with staff responsible for these areas on a regular basis and observing lessons where appropriate. I have developed a good working relationship with staff as they help children to live, learn and grow together in God's love. I would like to support Cardinal Heenan as a governor. I understand the importance of being supportive but also the need to challenge and question to help the school as it develops. I have undertaken a range of Governor training and would continue to do this to support my role. I am a primary school teacher. Since 2013 I have not been full-time in a school but continue to work as a supply teacher and help children with 1:1 tutoring. I have the time to commit to visiting the school and attending meetings as required. As a teacher, I know the demands of the curriculum and understand the day-to-day life of a school. Through my teaching and governing experiences, I have a strong understanding of school performance data, which helps me to work effectively with other governors to monitor and evaluate the school's performance, recognising strengths and areas for improvement.

JAMES HOMER

I am the parent of a child in Year 7, and I have another child in Year 5 at Immaculate Heart Primary School. My commitment to the continued success of Cardinal Heenan is both current and long-term, and I would love to play an active role in shaping this. I work as a mortgage broker, so effective financial management is part of my job. Perhaps more importantly though, I need to be a great listener and communicator, be continuously open-minded, and be able to build trust between individuals and institutions. But I also know when to constructively challenge, and how to problem-solve in order to find solutions in difficult situations. If elected, I will respectfully represent all parents, and bring these skills to the role to ensure the very best outcomes for the school and the children. Finally, I currently lead the external group responsible for the upcoming development of the 3G sports pitch at Cardinal Heenan. If I win the nomination for Parent Governor, I will be perfectly placed to ensure that the facility is operational at the earliest possible opportunity, and that it benefits all of the children at Cardinal Heenan for many years to come.

AYODEJI SUNDAY

I am keen to become a parent governor because I would like to use my experience in education, academia and industry to support the school and help inspire young people to achieve their full potential. I have experience working directly with young people in a high school as a STEM ambassador/assistant teacher, where I taught STEM, particularly Physics, and encouraged students to develop an interest in science, technology and higher education. I found it rewarding to inspire students to recognise the opportunities available to them and to consider pursuing further and higher education. I also have extensive experience in higher education. I hold an MSc and PhD in Electronic and Electrical Engineering and have worked at the University of Leeds as a lecturer, research assistant and tutor/teaching assistant. These roles have given me a strong understanding of teaching, student development, academic progression and the importance of creating an environment in which young people feel supported and motivated to succeed. In addition, I have 11 years of professional experience in the telecommunications industry, including Satcom, Radar and wireless technologies, with experience relating to emerging 5G/6G technologies. I believe this combination of academic and industry experience can provide valuable insight into the skills, knowledge and opportunities that young people will need for future careers in STEM and the wider world of work. As a parent governor and parent of a year-8 pupil, I would bring a committed, approachable and constructive perspective, while listening to the views of parents, students and staff. I hope to contribute positively to the school community and help inspire students to be ambitious, explore STEM and other career opportunities, and believe in their ability to progress to higher education and successful careers.