

## **Becoming a member of the Parent Advisory Forum: Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the benefits of being a member of the Parent Advisory Forum?**

- The knowledge that you have played a part in improving children's education
- The opportunity to contribute your knowledge and skills to a school
- The privilege of giving something back to society

### **Do I need qualifications to be a member of the Parent Advisory Forum?**

No. Schools need people with a variety of life experiences. The following are important:

- A commitment to attend meetings of the Parent Advisory Forum
- A desire to raise the standards of education within the school
- A willingness to share skills and expertise within the context of the Parent Advisory Forum
- Training will be given for those attending pupil discipline panels

### **I work full-time. Will I still have time to be a member of the Parent Advisory Forum?**

Parent Advisory Forum meetings rarely take place during the working day as most are arranged for the evenings.

### **What makes a good member of the Parent Advisory Forum?**

- You want to make sure the school is an outstanding centre of education
- You care about improving children's education

### **What can I offer?**

Enthusiasm and commitment. As a member of the school's community your local knowledge will be valuable - you will have a feel for what is important to people in the area and offer your professional expertise.

### **Parent Advisory Forums**

- Increase parent and community engagement between the School and Trustees
- Considers parent and community engagement within the school
- Reports through the Headteacher to the Trustees highlighting issues and successes with any recommendations
- Represents the Trustees on Pupil Discipline Committees
- Enables parents and community members to contribute to school improvement
- Provide advice to Trustees
- Gets to know the school
- Meets at least once a term

**How much time does it take?**

The amount of time that members of the Parent Advisory Forum can give to the role will vary but if you are serious about helping the school then you do need to:

- Attend meetings
- Participate - You should find time to prepare for the meetings and contribute as much as you are able to offer.

**How do I apply to be a member of the Parent Advisory Forum?**

You should submit a letter of interest of no more than 2 pages to Miss Molly Thomason by email [mthomason@matrixacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:mthomason@matrixacademytrust.co.uk) or by post to Matrix Academy Trust, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich, West Midlands, WS2 7PS.