


Candidate name:	Mrs. Tonya Pitan
Candidate statement:	<p>I am writing to express my interest in the position of Parent Governor, as advertised on the Parent Mail app in November 2023. Since becoming a part of the Highfield Primary School community as a parent of a reception student, I have been impressed by the school's warm and inclusive atmosphere, emphasizing the importance of students' development and enjoyment of their educational journey.</p> <p>I've joined the Friends of Highfield community and this along with my continued engagement with the diverse community served by the school has deepened my understanding and connection. I believe that I can effectively represent this community and contribute my skills to support the governing body in achieving the main priorities outlined in its school improvement plan, ultimately enhancing outcomes for our students.</p> <p>With 18 years of experience as a mathematics teacher, I have held various roles, including Key Stage Coordinator, Achievement coordinator, Director of maths, and currently serve as an Associate Assistant Principal. Throughout my career, I have actively participated in raising students' achievement through teaching and learning working parties, collaborating with colleagues to improve educational provisions in schools requiring enhancement. My experience spans across Leeds, Wakefield, and Kirklees, providing me with a diverse perspective on educational practices.</p> <p>My roles in schools have involved recruitment, staff development, effectively managing budgets, collaboration with other school leaders for developing schools, accountability, and proactive engagement in problem-solving initiatives. I am part of a solution-focused leadership group that strives for confident and strategic leadership and raising the academic culture within schools. My commitment to confidentiality and integrity is unwavering, ensuring the highest standards are maintained. I would use the knowledge gained and the network in these various forums to support the governing body and secure the best outcomes and learning experiences for our students.</p> <p>One of the main priorities for schools post-COVID is closing the gap in mathematics, an area of expertise in my current role. I am actively involved with the West Yorkshire Maths Hub through Mastery and lead initiatives in Core interventions and home learning. I am willing to share ideas, resources and support key initiatives within Highfield Primary School. Additionally, my involvement in developing mathematics across the curriculum, particularly in Science, Geography, and Design and Technology, aligns with the school's development plan priorities which is an area I am working on this year and would be happy to support.</p> <p>Recognizing the importance of mental health post-COVID, I have undertaken and continue to keep up-to-date with various advance safeguarding training to support staff and children effectively. My experience in maintaining Ofsted rated outstanding schools and my current role where I have been successful at working with a team of teachers to improve a school once rated by Ofsted as requiring improvement, but now rated good, demonstrates my dedication to collaborative improvement for young people from varying ethnicities and backgrounds. During this time, I have had the privilege of working with students from disadvantage backgrounds and this has been very rewarding. If elected, I would ensure that no child is left behind and support the community which the school serves to provided the best inclusive education to support all students' needs.</p> <p>Understanding the commitment of a parent governor, I am prepared to support any sub-committee and express particular interest in contributing to the Teaching and Learning committee. I am proactive in seeking training for personal and professional development, committing to ongoing training to ensure I remain well-suited for the role throughout my term of service.</p>



Thank you for considering my application. I hope that my skills and attributes will contribute significantly to the already excellent provision at Highfield Primary School.