



*Building · Inspiring · Caring*

CIRCULAR 2021-22 TL006

To: Parents/Guardians of all enrolled students  
Cc: Bursar

September 2021

### **Help us to help your child**

We are looking for new parent governors to join the Board of Governors for Blackwater IC. This is an exciting time for the College with new development plans in process and we are all looking forward with great enthusiasm. We always value the opinions and feedback from parents and the role of parent governor formalises that and gives parents an insight into the complexities of running the school. As a Grant Maintained Integrated College our structure is slightly different to some other schools and our governors are crucial to the running of the College.

### **Some information on being a Governor:**

Being a governor is a challenging though immensely rewarding role which requires continued commitment throughout your term of office. It will provide opportunities for you to make a real difference for young people through their education and development, and in the wider local community as a whole. Boards of Governors require a range of knowledge, skills and experience to enable them to challenge school standards and promote improvement.

Our Board of Governors is made up of representatives from a wide range of interests and backgrounds with the shared goal of providing the best possible education and educational opportunities for all of its pupils.

As a member, you will be involved in setting the strategic direction for the school and taking corporate decisions in relation to the statutory functions of the Board of Governors. Examples of areas of responsibility include:

- Attending and participating in Board meetings once a month
- Setting the school's vision, aims, plans and policies
- Establishing and maintaining the school's ethos
- Monitoring and evaluating school performance
- Managing school funds economically, effectively and efficiently in line with published guidance

Blackwater Integrated College | 12 Old Belfast Road | Downpatrick BT30 6SG | Tel: 028 4461 2115  
Principal: Stephen Taylor BA Hons. PQH

- Curriculum planning, including examinations management and administration policy
- Employment issues
- Pupil pastoral care and child protection issues
- The responsibility for governing the school is shared by the whole Board of Governors. Governors participate in the decision making for a wide range of proposals and issues, and ultimately vote on and agree important changes which impact the school, pupils and staff.

If you would be interested in joining BIC Board of Governors or would like more information please email us: [info@blackwateric.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@blackwateric.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk) or call us on 028 4461 2115 and I will call you back with more details.

An application form is available from the email address above and can be returned via email above or sent in with your child.

Thank you in advance for your interest in assisting the College moving forward.

Stephen Taylor  
Principal