



30<sup>th</sup> November 2017

### **Parent governor candidate personal statements**

Three candidates have been nominated for the parent governor vacancy on the Archer Academy Board of Governors. Please find their personal statements below (in alphabetical order).

#### **Nic Ford**

Hi – my name is Nic, and I'm the father of Sam in Year 8. In my professional life, I am the tech lead to a team of software developers within a large UK corporation. This means I am in the lucky position of being both the manager serving, and peer of, some of the most creative young developers in the industry. Hopefully, I am able to give them a little of the benefit of my years of industry experience; certainly, I gain hugely from helping enable, and then learning from, them as they expand their own.

And that's why I am putting myself forward for the position of parent governor at the Archer Academy. I am passionate about this school, and the opportunities it affords our children. I am keen to work with the founders, existing governors and staff to help create an environment which builds on the fantastic groundwork and achievement that has already been made; an environment within which students are enabled to grow; strive; fail without judgement and stand up again with dignity; and ultimately exceed their own expectations with confidence and delight. I can't think of anything that would make me more proud, than to help that happen.

I look forward, if I attain the position of governor, to being part of the team that makes such a difference to these young people's lives. And also, of course, to learning extraordinary things from those young people on the way.

#### **Grace Palazzolo**

I have three children, two are in Year 6 and 4 at a local primary school and the oldest, is in Year 9 at The Archer Academy.

For the last nine years I worked in a management consultancy, specialising in advising clients such as John Lewis, Coca Cola and Bupa on responsible business and community investment strategies that deliver meaningful, measurable impact in local communities. One relevant example is work done with Santander and their Foundation, helping them invest in young people accessing education and employment and creating a more streamlined, user friendly grant application process. This experience could help The Archer access fundraising opportunities from corporate partners, trusts and foundations. I also worked on projects helping schools engage students and parents in environmentally aware behaviour change.

Prior to this I worked in advertising and PR, owning my own successful PR agency. I think this experience could help The Archer continue to raise its profile among all important stakeholders. We feel so lucky that our family has the opportunity to benefit from the uncompromising high standards and energy that infuse everything at The Archer: from the work of the Founders, the Governors and the Head Teacher to all the teaching staff and students. I understand that being an active Governor in such a dynamic school requires a lot of time and effort and I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my time and skills to help ensure ongoing success for the school and all of its students.

**The Archer Academy**

Email: [info@thearcheracademy.org.uk](mailto:info@thearcheracademy.org.uk)

Telephone: 020 8365 4110

**Stanley Road Campus**

**Lower School years 7-9**

Eagans Close

London N2 8GA

**Beaumont Close Campus**

**Upper School years 10-11**

3 Beaumont Close, The Bishops Avenue

London N2 0GA

**Jonathan Shine**

A 49-year-old Dad of Alyssa in Year 8 and Leo due to join next year, I run my own business as a sustainable-transport consultant specialising in electric cars and car-sharing. I also sing and run a function band. An avid reader, I take a great interest in philosophy and politics. I think outside the box to find new ways of doing things that suit our rapidly changing times. We are so grateful for the Archer Academy and connect deeply with its ethos. I'd like to work with my fellow governors and teaching staff to increase student participation in the running of the school through the greater use of student councils. I also think that a carefully curated feedback system for students to share their experiences and ideas would be invaluable to the school. I bring with me decades of business experience, excellent communication skills and a zest for life.





