

Candidate Statements for May 2021 Parent Governor Elections

<p><u>Alison Minto</u> I am a working parent of three children who attend three Camden schools; my daughter is in year 8. Our children have missed so much in the last 18 months and the impact on us all may take another decade to be fully understood. As a governor, in these unprecedented times, I would support the school as it works to best support the teaching, learning, and pastoral experiences that we all expect for the teenage years. Children should achieve their potential because of, not in spite of, covid 19. I have been a parent governor in Gospel Oak Primary School for 10 years including 3 as chair of governors. I govern from the perspective of what impact each decision has for every child. As a parent governor I would bring experience a breath of experience, including transition and the educational and financial pressures all schools are encountering.</p>	<p><u>Herveline Revenu</u> My eldest son currently attends CSG Sixth Form and my youngest daughter will start CSG in year 7 next September. (My middle son currently attends CFBS). I have been a governor at my children’s primary school for the last 3 years, after being chair of the PTA. Over the years, I have helped raising funds for the school by organising live auctions, knocking at City firms or applying for grants. Professionally I have been working full time in the financial industry for the last 20 years. Personally, I am passionate about learning, education and equality of chance. I care as much about our children academic progress, as about their social, artistic and physical development. Above all, I wish all kids to become curious, independent learners, critical thinkers and to have the happiest time during their school years.</p>
<p><u>Ceri Smith</u> CSG has many strengths, but like every school (and every pupil) it can be even better! I particularly want to see the school improve its two-way dialogue with parents. Lockdown was difficult for us all, and the school is no exception. It needs to make sure it is resilient and able to respond well to future challenges. I was a governor for 11 years at Acland Burghley, helping turn it around and recruit its fantastic new head. After twenty years as a civil servant I have spent the past 8 years working with Boards of a range of government organisations, helping them deliver better services to the public. I am currently a Director-General at the Department for International Trade. With a daughter in Year 8 I’m passionate about (and have a vested interest in) making sure the school is the best it can be, for all its students.</p>	<p><u>Esther Windsor</u> I am a parent to Lilly Y9 and at work, Senior Lecturer & Researcher at Birmingham School of Art. I am passionate about changing lives through learning. I’ve been in Camden for 30 years, involved in local politics, across housing, gender and environmental issues. There is exciting potential now at CSG to support teaching. I’d like more parent/school engagement in our children’s learning, homework apps, mental health and social skills initiatives, outdoors learning, removing single use plastic, awareness of neurodiversity and making stronger links for students to artists & art organisations, to link into STEM/STEAM too. I’ve volunteered on Anna Freud Centre’s Child Mental Health Services, Steering Group and use their research for Schools & Universities in my teaching across BA, MA, PhD, life-long learners and care leavers. I sit on my University, Equality Diversity Inclusion group and would be privileged to use my experience to support CSG student’s progression.</p>
<p><u>Harriet Windsor</u> As a year 8 parent and a former CSG student I have a strong (and vested) interest in the success of the school, and am keen to become part of the team responsible for ensuring that the school can continue to provide an outstanding education for all of our children. The constraints around state education are becoming ever more difficult, with the increasing drive towards academies, and I think it is vitally important that CSG keeps its current status, retaining the freedom to focus on a balanced curriculum combining arts and sciences. As Corporate Finance Director for Network Rail, my job is to bring in private and community funding for the railway, and I can do the same thing for CSG, to enable us to invest in the quality of the education provided, and also in the school facilities which I think we all agree could do with it.</p>	