

## Candidates' Statements

### Yasmin Sattar

Dear Parent,

Thank you for taking the time to read this statement. I currently work in the banking sector and have been since leaving University where I graduated with a BSc Degree in Psychology & Criminology from the University of Liverpool.

My current role is within the Wholesale Credit & Lending team. Current responsibilities are managing global projects and implementing new strategies within the corporate sector.

I am also a proud mum of twins. My son and daughter are both in their first year at Whitecote Primary School. Prior to getting a place in Whitecote we had visited many schools throughout the Leeds Area (as many of us do). What attracted us to Whitecote were the staff, who are experienced teachers with the ability to nurture children's behaviours, improve attitudes and life skills, giving a holistic approach to education. Both Waseem and Soraya have adapted very well at the school, and they enjoy the variety of activities it offers.

As a Parent Governor, I would like to learn more about the school's approaches, the challenges, provide feedback with curriculum development & evaluation when required, and help improve its perception among the local community. Since becoming a mother, I am passionate about my children's education and well-being. From personal experience, I understand that each child has their own individual needs, whether they are neurodiverse or Mensa member, and I really want to ensure that they have the best and fairest experience in school.

As Parent Governor my main priority is making sure our children have a safe and secure environment to learn in and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. My children's future is of the upmost importance to me, and these are my priorities. Therefore, I would be delighted to be given the opportunity in also making a difference in the education of not just my children but to the school as a whole.

**Skills that can be brought to the Governing Body:**

- Financial analysis
- Team building/coaching
- Strategic planning
- Budgeting/financial management
- Understanding change

### Thomas Ellis

Working in Children's Services has given me a great insight into how children in Leeds are supported and looked after. I want to be able to contribute to the strategic discussions around the direction and operation of a school. As a parent of a neurodiverse child, I want to be able to bring my insight to the school's governing body. I also feel it would benefit my professional development in terms of networking and collaboration with a local school; this would also bring benefits to the school having a governor who works for the Local Authority.

You youngest son attends Whitecote Primary School so how the school operates is important to me. My eldest son attended Whitecote and he thrived as a result of the support and

encouragement of staff at the school. I would love to be part of the team of people that could help the school to create an environment where others can have the same experience he did.

**Skills that can be brought to the Governing Body:**

I have years of experience working in roles that require me to speak in front of a wide variety of stakeholder, presenting data and information in a way that is easily understandable and easy to digest. I am used to thinking strategically within an organisation that puts the children of Leeds at the heart of everything it does. I am able to think laterally about things which helps with problem solving.

**Helen Blackburn**

I am passionate about ensuring that all children receive the best possible education. I take pride in being part of a wider community, building strong relationships within the school my daughter attends – this is the starting block for her, and other children's, futures.

**Skills that can be brought to the Governing Body:**

- Previous experience of being a Governor
- IT fluent
- Safeguarding aware