



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Educate Awards - Celebrating Success

We would like to nominate Kayte Parlevliet as 'Governor of the Year' for her outstanding contribution to Queen's Park High School.

Kayte has been an outstanding leader of our governing body for the past four years. Teamwork is Kayte's passion and undeniable strength. She has an understated ability to empower all members of her team to lead and support them to drive their plans forward: all of this delivered with incredible calmness and control. Kayte has phenomenal drive and is always pushing for excellence within the governing body and the wider school community.

Having arrived in the UK from Australia in August 2015, with her daughter starting in Year 7 in Sept 2015, Kayte joined the governing body several months later, keen to be able to contribute and integrate into our wider school community. When Kayte put her name forward to be Chair of Governors in July 2016, there was some surprise as she was part of a group of four relatively new Governors, however as one of them has stated: "I was happy to support her nomination as her questions and points were in my view more relevant than the established thinking and were always forward focused. Kayte was duly elected and immediately took over as Chair of the meeting, within seconds it was clear we had made the right decision."

Throughout her four years as Chair of Governors at Queen's Park High School, Kayte has supported the school in moving from an Ofsted grading of RI to Good. Her commitment is unwavering. This being truly noted during the school's recent Ofsted inspection when Kayte joined the meeting with inspectors in the middle of the night, from her screen in Australia where she was working on business. The Ofsted inspector did comment that this was a first for him to be joined from the other side of the world during an interview.

Kayte's skills are that she brings focus to issues and encourages the group to challenge and discuss without imposing her views so that everyone is comfortable expressing an opinion. She is then able to assimilate the detail and provide a conclusion/ agreed action. Kayte has brought a business and professionalism to meetings and transformed our way of working. There is clear delegation and responsibility and offers fantastic support to the School above and beyond what could be reasonably expected. Kayte's tenure as Chair came up for review recently, a policy she instigated at her appointment so that role was always occupied by someone who was there to deliver what was best for the school – there was no hesitation re-electing Kayte and it has been an absolute pleasure to be part of her team. Yes, it is hard work but it is rewarding and Kayte is someone you would never want to let down because she is all about the team not the individual.

Queen's Park High School has moved forward dramatically over the past 4 years and whilst a large part of that has been down to the Head and her staff, Kayte has always been there in the background utilising input from the Governors' wide professional skill base to assist and help resolve issues appropriately. Kayte's experience within business has enabled her to lead Governor Strategy Days working with the Senior Leadership Team, introduce LEAN methodology into our school development planning (introduction of one page plans to streamline our workload), support difficult decisions around restructures and complex HR issues. She willingly gives of her time to be part of

recruitment interview panels, have a presence at all key school events and has equally become a valued Trustee on the Trust Board since our academisation.

Kayte's greatest strength though is her absolute commitment to young people and seeing them grow. We have cried many a happy tear interviewing staff and 6th Form students for Leadership roles within the school. She always asks who 'inspires them' and we would have no hesitation in suggesting that Kayte is an absolute role model and inspiration to many. Not only is Kayte an exceptional governor, she has been a coach/mentor/friend/sounding board for the Headteacher and has supported her through some incredibly challenging times – the rock that you need when times are tough.

Over the last year, Kayte has also devoted her skills to supporting our school rowing club, learning to row herself, becoming a coach and running training at 7am three times a week for her designated quad of girls. How she fits everything in, is beyond us!

Inspiring Individuals • Empowering Minds • Defining Futures

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