



Governor Newsletter 2020

Hello!

This is our first newsletter of 2020, and what a year it has been for us all coping with the demands of a global pandemic. The governors are very proud of the excellent way staff have adapted and responded to the ever changing requirements needed to ensure that our children have been able to return safely to school to continue their learning. It was also good to hear positive reports from parents who said how much their children had enjoyed returning to school. This all round positive culture is what makes our school so special in the community!

What has been happening this term?

We have continued to meet as a Governing Board, albeit virtually and embracing technology, for our full governing board meetings. These are held each half term. Our governors have also continued with their development attending zoom training courses covering a number of areas.

Consultation on the School Admissions Arrangements

As a church school, the Governing Board are the Admissions Authority. This year, we are required to conduct a consultation on the School Admissions Arrangements for children to be admitted in the academic year 2022/23. The governors have reviewed the policy. A key requirement of the policy is that our church school meets the needs of the vulnerable and the local community. The consultation lasts for 6 weeks and information about the proposed policy can be found on the school website. Any comments are to be submitted to the school no later than 22nd January 2021 either by email to: admin@allsaints.calderdale.sch.uk or by post to the headteacher: Mrs L Watson.

Overview of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board consists of members of the teaching staff, the Head teacher, parent members, a Local Education Authority Representative and other members of our local and church community. We have three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Changes to the Governing Board

We were sad to see three valued governors leave recently. Lily Chapman and Rachel Dean retired as Parent Governors and Lucy Titley Warden as a Foundation Governor. We thank them for their service to the school. Two nominations were received to replace the parent governor positions and we are pleased to announce that Kirsty Birks and Patrick Poyser are now being inducted as governors.

Do we have our full complement of governors?

We currently have vacancies for Foundation Governors on our board. As a Foundation Governor, you will specifically make sure that the governing board

- Preserves and enhances the religious character of the school
- Ensures that the school is conducted and led in accordance with its trust deed.

If you know someone who thinks they have the right skills to join our team please contact the school office: admin@allsaints.calderdale.sch.uk



So what is a Parent Governor?

Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. It is important for parent governors to establish a rapport with the parental body whilst continuing to maintain a strategic approach to school governance.

As a parent governor, the role is: To bring a parental perspective to the issues discussed – they're not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.



Kirsty Birks - Personal statement

Hi, I'm Kirsty Birks. Mum to Alice (year4), Jamie (year1) and wife to Anthony. I'm not a Halifax native (my heart belongs to Glasgow!) but I've made Skircoat Green my home over the last 12 years.

I don't have any imaginative hobbies but I do love spending time with the kids, devouring a good book, travelling North of the border as much we can and entertaining friends & family when possible.

On the professional front, I've worked in business & brand strategy for over 20 years alongside company boards shaping their future objectives and strategies.

I look forward to working with the school's governance board as a parent governor. Please come and say hello in the playground and let me know if there's anything I can help with.



Patrick Poyser - Personal statement

Hello there,

I'm Patrick, Hannah (my partner) and I are parents to Reuben in year 4. My roots are from Jamaica but I've lived in the USA where I started early study and working life, I also lived and worked in London for 12 years before moving to the North approximately 15 years now.

My professional working background has been mainly business operations and sales & marketing director of a free newspaper. I'm hoping my expertise of working in a host settings to achieve goals will put me in a position to support the school governing board.

In terms of hobbies, it is changing to less sporting and more family time. We love travelling as a family, I also enjoy films, reading and following technology and football news.

"See you in the playground" I look forward to supporting the School Community.

We will introduce other members of our board in future issues.

And finally...

On behalf of all the Governors, I would like to thank you for your support during these difficult times as our school team strives to keep school life fun, exciting and as normal as possible to enable our children to grow in confidence and learning.

Yolande Shire- Chair of Governors 2020-21