



Sutton Benger CE Primary School Governor Spotlight

March
2017

Strive, Believe, Succeed! We strive to do our best, believe in the values of God and succeed together...in peace

Sutton Benger School Vision Statement

To provide a creative curriculum and inspiring learning environment which encourages every child to reach their potential by becoming a confident, self-motivated and independent learner. Through purposeful leadership and effective communication we strive to give all our pupils the lifelong gift of prayer and the certainty that they are loved and valued.

Becoming a Sutton Benger School Governor - we have vacancies on our Governing Body

School governors are people who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. The role of the governing body is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school.

What do governors do?

Governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools. They hold the main responsibility for finance in the school and work alongside the Headteacher to make decisions about balancing resources. Governors work with the school to set the strategic direction, aims and objectives, and monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achieving them. They appoint, support and challenge the senior leaders.

Who can become a governor?

Anyone over the age of 18 can become a governor. There are no particular qualifications required and you do not need to have a detailed knowledge of the education sector. At Sutton Benger School we carry out an annual skills audit of our governors to ensure we have a wide skillset as a group. We are currently looking to recruit people onto our governing body with finance, HR or project management experience.

What does the time commitment look like?

As a governor you can put in as much time as you feel you would like to, but the formal commitment is to attend 6 full governing body meetings a year (these are two hour evening meetings) as well as doing some reading to prepare for these meetings. Most governors are also a member of a sub-committee which meet 3 or 6 times a year (some meet during the day and some are in the evening) depending on the group. As a governor you will be 'linked' to a subject area and will be invited to visit the school to carry out a monitoring visit as well as having the opportunity to discuss the subject with the subject leader, staff and pupils.

What are the benefits?

Becoming a governor affords an excellent opportunity to learn about the evolving education system, and understand better the running of the school. It helps you to develop links with the community and enables you to support the continual aim of improving life experiences and educational outcomes for all the children at Sutton Benger School. The leadership and community experience gained through working as a governor is also acknowledged to be a helpful addition to a CV when applying for jobs.

I'm interested in supporting the work of Sutton Benger School governing body - what do I do next?

To find out more about the role of a governor or to express an interest in joining, please email one of us: Katie Brown (kbrown@suttonbenger.wilts.sch.uk) / James Passmore (jpassmore@suttonbenger.wilts.sch.uk)

We'd be delighted to hear from you. James Passmore & Katie Brown



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Governor Profile: Dan Robertson



My two younger children attend Sutton Benger School and I have been a Governor since Summer 2016. Governors help to guide the strategic development of the school and provide oversight over all aspects of school life.

As a Foundation Governor, I am appointed by the Diocese of Bristol and have responsibility for encouraging the Christian values of the school. For example, I helped to run the Bible Trail at school in the winter term and did some narrating in the Christmas church service.

As well as participating in the main Governing Body meetings, each Governor sits on sub committees - mine are 'Staffing' and 'Ethos'. In addition, Governors get involved in specific areas of school life to link those into the governance of the school. My specific area is 'Early Years' and I spend time most weeks with Rainbow class, reading with them and understanding more about their learning. This is a highlight of my week as they are such a fun group.

I came to the role with little previous experience of the education sector. Over the past year, I have learned to understand better the running of the school and the evolution of Government education policy. I have also come to appreciate even more the skilled work of the staff. The experience enhances my family's enjoyment of school life.

Having worked in finance in London for nearly 20 years, I am in the process of retraining to work in agriculture. I enjoy making bread by hand and looking after our chickens and sheep.

Dan Robertson

Members of the Governing Body

Louise Pitman-Jones	Associate Headteacher
Ursula Scott	Executive Headteacher
Katie Brown (chair)	Foundation Governor
Joan Cocker	Foundation Governor
Rev Alison Love	Foundation Governor
Dan Robertson	Foundation Governor
Tom Whittingham	Foundation Governor
Rebecca Dennis	Foundation Governor
Vacancy	Foundation Governor
Vacancy	Foundation Governor
Daisy Broomfield	Local Authority Governor
Barry Worth	Associate Member
James Passmore (chair)	Parent Governor
Vacancy	Parent Governor
Vacancy	Parent Governor
Simon James	Clerk to Governing Body

Key Contacts

Co-chairs: Katie Brown & James Passmore:
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Clerk to the Governing Body: Simon James
clerk@suttonbenger.wilts.sch.uk

Sutton Benger Governors - website

For more information about what the governors at Sutton Benger Primary School do, to find meeting agendas and minutes, and to explore who the Governors are please visit the school website:

www.suttonbenger.org

