

December Newsletter: LGC Column

We are delighted to bring you our first Governor's newsletter column. Our aim is to improve communication and links between governors, staff, parents and children. Over the coming newsletters, we'll be sharing with you who we are and what we do to support our fantastic School.

Who are the Local Governance Committee?

Our Governing Body consists of a group of volunteers who come from a variety of backgrounds; some from education and teaching, while others bring skills from health, finance, project management, IT, science and technology. Both Heads of School also sit on the Governing Body.

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| ANN BIDDALL, Clerk to the Governors Ann has been Clerk to the Governors for over 25 years. She was also a Parent Governor at the Corsham School for many years as well as being an Attendance Officer. Ann has three children, all of whom attended Corsham Primary School! | |
| ANDREW GOUGH, Chair of Governors Link Governor for Safeguarding, Performance Management & Attendance Andy joined the Governing Body in September 2017 and became Chair in 2018. He has two children at Pound Pill and is a construction project manager having previously worked on local projects including Springfield Campus. | KIRSTY HALL, Vice Chair of Governors Link Governor for Curriculum and English Kirsty joined as a governor in September 2019 and became Vice Chair in 2022. She has two boys, one at Pound Pill and one at the Corsham School. Kirsty's background is in PR and communications and is Link governor for English and the wider Curriculum. |
| ADAM COZENS Link Governor for Health & Safety and Community Adam has been a governor since September 2022. He has two children at Broadwood and became a governor primarily because he wanted to put back into the community. With a strong background in business and finance Adam is the Link Governor for Health & Safety across both Pound Pill and Broadwood sites. | CLARE DAVIES Link Governor for Inclusion and Maths Clare also became a governor in September 2022. She has 15 years' experience in the Police force and has strong skills in critical thinking, teamwork, safeguarding and dealing compassionately with people. Clare is the Link Governor for Inclusion and Maths and has a son at Pound Pill. |
| ELLIOT SHALE Link Governor for PE and Computing Elliot joined the Governing Body in September. He has 16 years' experience working in the MoD and brings leadership and management experience with Sandhurst training. Elliot specialises in IT & Risk Management and is Link Governor for PE and Computing. | JO MAVIR Link Governor for Early Years, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Art and Music Jo has been a Parent Governor since September 2021 and has 2 boys at Pound Pill. Her background is as a pharmacist and has had experience in university education as well as different sectors of the NHS. |
| MATTHEW BRYANT Link Governor for Geography, History and Philosophy. Matt has been a Parent Governor since September 2021. His background is in secondary education and has taught in numerous secondary schools; outside of work you might find him at Leafy Lane coaching one of the Under 8 football teams. | PHILIP BASSINDALE Link Governor for Science and Design Technology. Like Elliot, Phil joined the Governing Body in September and is the Link Governor for Science and DT. With a child in Reception at Pound Pill, Phil is a Scientist by background. His current focus is the development of natural and sustainable consumer goods. |

What do the Local Governance Committee do?

Governors are a group of volunteers who can include parents, staff and members of our local community. Our main role is to promote ongoing improvements in standards throughout Corsham Primary School.

Our team of governors provide support to the school in a number of ways, using our experience from various backgrounds. We're here to ensure the school's performance is evaluated and continuously improves, to provide the strategic direction for the school and to ensure legal obligations are met. Our role is sometimes described as a 'critical friend'. This doesn't mean that we're here to criticise the Heads of School, or the school itself. Instead, we try to ask useful questions to gain a greater understanding of the school and to foster an ethos of continuous improvement.

Governors attend meetings throughout the academic year, make regular visits to the school and attend training courses. All governors maintain a current and working knowledge of safeguarding. No one governor is expected to know everything, therefore the strength of our governing body lies in its ability to attract and rely upon members from a wide variety of backgrounds, share out the duties amongst one another, and be able to take decisions as a group.

All the staff at Corsham Primary work extremely hard to give our children the highest quality of teaching based in a supportive and encouraging environment. It's important that as parents, you feel welcome. A good relationship between school and home helps to build a child's confidence and assists their development in school. The governors are always keen to seek the views of parents, so please come and chat to us when you see us at school or at any school function. Alternatively you can get in touch with any one of us via the school office.

We feel extremely privileged to be part of the life of our school. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our communication links via future editions of this newsletter.

Andy Gough, Chair of Governors.