

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Board of Governors – September 2020 to August 2021

MEMBERS	POSITION	GOVERNOR TYPE	TERM END
Luke Butler		Co-opted	08/10/2023
Darren Cohen		Co-opted	16/05/2025
Juliette Curtis		Staff	01/04/2023
Kim Harding		Co-opted	13/09/2024
Claire Hogg	VICE CHAIR Jan 2021 – Jan 2023	Parent	03/10/2023
Mark Jepson	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER	Co-opted	18/01/2025
Richard Kurzyca	CHAIR OF GOVERNORS Sept 2019 – Sept 2022	Co-opted	24/11/2023
Mark Lowrie		Co-opted	24/11/2023
Sourabh Mittal		Local Authority	01/01/2024
Matt O’Grady	HEADTEACHER	Staff	Ex-officio
Nicolle Rowson		Parent	19/10/2024

There is one vacancy for a Co-opted governor.

The Board of Governors maintains a skills matrix which demonstrates the diverse skills held by the Board of Governors. This document informs any appointments to ensure the Board of Governors maintain the skills required to be effective.

Clerk to the Governors

This service is provided by Juniper Education, Head Office, Boundary House, 4 County Place, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0RE. Tel: 0345 200 8600.

Committees – September 2020 to August 2021

Governors meet twice each term; one meeting concentrates on the curriculum and pupils, the other meeting concentrates on the School’s finances and its strategic development. In addition to these meetings, there are four committees:

Headteacher’s Appraisal Committee: Darren Cohen, Richard Kurzyca and Keith Pullen (external adviser).

Teachers’ Pay Committee: Darren Cohen, Kim Harding and Mark Lowrie.

Staff Discipline Appeals Committee, and Pupils Discipline Committee. These committees will comprise three governors who do not have any connection with the matter being discussed and have no prior knowledge of it.

Attendance – September 2020 to June 2021

MEMBERS	Number of Board meetings attended this year
Luke Butler	1 of 6 (17%)
Darren Cohen	5 of 6 (83%)
Juliette Curtis	6 of 6 (100%)
Kim Harding	3 of 6 (50%)
Claire Hogg	6 of 6 (100%)
Mark Jepson	3 of 3 (100%)
Richard Kurzyca	6 of 6 (100%)
Mark Lowrie	5 of 6 (83%)
Sourabh Mittal	4 of 6 (67%)
Matt O’Grady	6 of 6 (100%)
Nicolle Rowson	3 of 5 (60%)

Named Governor Linked to Class

Staff Member	Key Responsibilities	Linked Governor
Mr Mark Jepson	Deputy Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Pupil Wellbeing Lead Assessment Leader Mathematics Subject Leader	Nicolle Rowson (SEND) Richard Kurzyca (Maths & Assessment)
Mrs Julia Bolton	SENDco Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Mental Health First Aider Forest Schools Leader	Nicolle Rowson
Mrs Emily Hill	English Subject Leader History Subject Leader Geography Subject Leader RE Subject Leader	Claire Hogg
Miss Jess Griffin	Early Years Leader	Darren Cohen

	Design and Technology Subject Leader	
Mrs D Richardson	Enhanced Provision Teacher PSHE Subject Leader PE Subject Leader Music Subject Leader	Mark Lowrie
Mrs Nikki Miller	Science Subject Leader Art and Design Subject Leader	Luke Butler
Miss Vicky Hunt	LBQ specialist	Richard Kurzyca
Miss Elisabeth Jean-Marie	Modern Foreign Languages Subject Leader	Sourabh Mittal
Mr Shawn Coe	Assistant PE Subject Leader	Mark Lowrie

Whilst Covid constraints have prevented governors from visiting the School, governors and teachers were able to see and talk to each other during a virtual meeting in May 2021.

Training Undertaken by Governors

Governors have undertaken training on a wide variety of topics including:

- Staff wellbeing webinars run by the Local Authority.
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) basics for schools.
- School finances.
- Preparing for any Ofsted inspection.
- The monitoring role of governors.
- Curriculum and ethos.
- Safeguarding.
- Overview of governance.
- Governor induction training (essential for new governors to help them understand the diverse requirements of being a governor).

Chair's Statement / Statement from Board

Covid has brought many changes to our daily lives; some changes we will retain and some we will gladly say goodbye to. The use of virtual meetings is something that is likely to be retained. The board held its first virtual board meeting in April 2020, all subsequent meetings have been held virtually and it has proved an effective way of conducting business.

We strive to continue to support the work of the School:

- The provision of home schooling for many pupils and in-school provision for children of key workers.
- Ensuring pupils still enjoy school, feel valued and part of the school community.
- Clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

- Ensuring pupil attainment is monitored and maximised.
- Oversight and approval of the School's budget.
- To ensure all staff are supported as needed.
- To approve policies and procedures.

We have access to an independent training and clerking service who are available for advice if needed, and who provide training and meetings to help us to remain well informed.

We continue to review policies and procedures to ensure that these are fit for purpose and meet not only our legal responsibilities but also our vision and aims for the school and our pupils. The children and staff remain at the forefront of our decisions as we endeavour to provide the best educational environment for them.

We have supported fully the revision to the School's uniform and have welcomed the opportunity for children to undertake the educational trip to Ironbridge in October 2021.

We continue to closely monitor the school budget to ensure the school can cope with rising costs. This is a constant challenge, but we strive to ensure that staffing levels and resources have not suffered as a result. This means that the children's learning and development will continue to be of the highest standard. We continue to be grateful to the PTA for the fantastic support they give the school in terms of fund raising, resources, time and commitment.

Other Documents

The register of business and pecuniary interests held by the governors is available from the governors' section on the School's website.