

# Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body Terling C of E [Voluntary Aided] Primary School September 2020-July 2021

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the three core strategic functions of Terling Primary School Governing Body are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure that money is well spent.

The COVID 19 situation has meant that this has been another challenging year for everyone with pupils taught in school in 'bubbles' and remotely when necessary. Despite the difficulties, Pupils, Staff, Parents and Governors have worked together and much has been achieved. In the words of our Vision Statement they 'flourish and shine in all that they do.'

At the end of the Autumn Term Stacey Holden and Kelly Hodginson resigned as Governors. I would like to thank them all for their hard work and commitment to the school during their term of office.

In the Spring Term we welcomed Lisa Curtis as Parent Governor. At the end of the Summer Term Tim Clark was appointed as a Foundation Governor.

We are also very fortunate to have the continued support of Ceri Jones, Head Teacher of Chipping Hill School and Mike Gee who is a National Leader in Governance.

With their guidance and the support of the Local Authority and the Diocese we have continued to support Mrs Meares and the Staff and have made good progress in making the improvements highlighted by OFSTED.

The Full Governing Body met twice a term on a video link. The Finance Committee met once a term, also remotely. For most of the year the Governors were unable to visit the School in person, but were able to monitor their areas of interest remotely. Mrs Meares has kept us fully informed by email and her Head Teacher's Reports. We look forward to resuming our visits as soon as possible.

We are very aware of the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on the well being of children, staff and parents and will do our best to support the extra measures the school has in place and to monitor the impact on teaching and learning in the year ahead.

The Governors would like to thank Mrs Meares and all the Staff for supporting the children's learning and wellbeing during such a difficult time.

*Sarah McNamara Chair of Governors*

## Constitution of the Governing Body

**1 Staff Governor** - Andrew Sime

**2 Elected Parent Governors** –Davinia Wynne and Lisa Curtis

**1 Local Authority Governor** – Ruth Santos-Brien

**6 Foundation Governors** Mark Clayden appointed by the Parochial Church Council . [1 vacancy]

Alison Taylor, Elisabeth Millard and Andrew Redmond appointed by the Diocesan Education Committee

**Ex officio Members** - Sarah Meares Head Teacher

Sarah McNamara representing All Saints' Church

**Associate Governor** – Barry Collyer

**Clerk** – Peter Clancy

Ceri Jones, Headteacher, Chipping Hill School and Pauline Davis, Finance Manager are also invited to attend the meetings

## Meet the Governors: September 2020 -July 2021

### Head Teacher

Mrs Sarah Meares

As Head Teacher is an ex-officio member of the Governing body.

### Staff Representative:

Andrew Sime

Andy has been a governor at Terling School since 2011, first as a Parent Governor and now as a Staff Representative. He works as the school's Higher Level Teaching Assistant, teaching all classes, from Reception to Year 6. Andy has two daughters, one in Year 6 at Terling School, the other in Year 10.

### **Parent Governors –**

Lisa Curtis has lived in Chelmsford for 8 years and has a son in Reception and another son at Hillside Playcare. She has 12 years of experience as a secondary Design and Technology teacher, having worked in both state and private education in and out of London. Prior to becoming a teacher, she worked as an Urban Designer and Architectural Assistant.

#### **Davinia Wynne**

Davinia was appointed as Parent Governor in 2020. She has two sons at the school, one in Year 5 and the other in Year 2. Davinia has experience in purchasing and procurement for large organisations.

### **Foundation Governors – appointed by the Diocesan Education Committee:**

#### **Annette Hurst**

Annette has lived in Terling for 9 years. She is a regular attendant of All Saints Church and sits on the Parochial Church Council. Annette has had experience of primary school life whilst working as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant before pursuing a career in property, where she is now Sales and Marketing Director of a national housebuilder.

#### **Alison Taylor**

Alison is a doctor specialising in IVF and fertility treatment. She regularly worships at All Saints' Church

#### **Elisabeth Millard**

Became governor September 2019 and is a parent of two children, one in Year 4 and one in Reception. She is a teacher at Chipping Hill Primary School in Witham and has 13 years of primary teaching experience.

#### **Andrew Redmond**

Andrew has recently retired. He has many years experience in school estate management and health and safety in schools, working with Government departments and Local Authorities.

### **Foundation Governors – appointed by the Parochial Church Council:**

#### **Mark Clayden**

Mark joined the Governors in September 2019. He has worked for thirty five years in regulation, law and compliance for international banks. He is Chairman of Kids Alive/Stand by me, a charity supporting children all over the world with sponsorship, education and health programmes.

#### **Tim Clark**

Tim teaches at a school in Chelmsford and has responsibility for PE and Maths. He has also worked in many schools in Essex running after school sports clubs.

### **Local Authority Governor – appointed by Essex County Council:**

#### **Ruth Santos-Brien**

Ruth lives in Terling and has two children, one of them at the school. She works in a global consulting firm. As a volunteer at the school, she loves helping children learn about other languages and cultures as well as running the Lego Club.

### **Ex- Officio – representing All Saints' Church**

#### **Sarah McNamara**

Sarah is a retired primary school teacher. She has lived in Terling all her life, apart from a spell in Germany when she taught in British Forces' Schools. She is a Churchwarden and is fully involved in the life of the village.

### **Associate Governor**

#### **Barry Collyer**

The School has close links with Chipping Hill Primary School and we are pleased that their ex Chair of Governors, Barry Collyer has agreed to be an Associate Governor. He has wide experience as a governor and his speciality is Human Resources.

## **Attendance at Meetings – September 2020 – July 2021**

The Governing Body meet twice a term. There is also a Finance and Premises Committee which meets each term and reports to the full Governing Body. Because of the COVID situation all meetings were held virtually.

Since Ofsted we have established a voluntary 'Improvement Board' with membership comprising Sarah Meares, Sarah McNamara, and representatives from the Local Authority and the Diocese. The Improvement Board held their final meeting in March 2021

Minutes of the Governor's meetings are available in the School Office.

Membership	Attendance of meetings out of total possible number of meetings
Ruth Santos Brien	6/6
Tim Clark	0/0
Mark Clayden	6/6
Barry Collyer	2/6
Lisa Curtis	2/2
Kelly Hodgkinson	0/2
Stacey Holden	0/2
Annette Hurst	4/6
Sarah McNamara	6/6
Sarah Meares	6/6
Elisabeth Millard	6/6
Andrew Redmond	6/6
Andrew Sime	6/6
Alison Taylor	6/6
Davinia Wynne	6/6

### **2020/2021 Academic Year**

During the last academic year Governors' monitoring has been aligned to the School Development Plan.

New Governors have worked with those with more experience. The Chair has met with Mike Gee, a National Leader in Governance who also delivered OFSTED Training for all governors. Key points for action, identified by the Improvement Board, included the Chris Quigley Essentials Curriculum, Pupil and Staff Wellbeing, Finance and the future direction of the School.

The Governors will continue to work with Mrs Meares and her Staff regarding the actions needed to support the needs of the pupils following the disruption to their schooling.

### **Contacting the Governing Body**

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Sarah McNamara, via the school office.