

# Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body Terling C of E [Voluntary Aided] Primary School Sept 2019-July 2020

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.

This, to say the least, has been an eventful year! The Autumn Term saw many changes to the Governing Body. We received resignations from Sarah Day, Brett O'Donoghue and Claire Franklin. I would like to thank them all for their hard work and commitment to the school during their term of office. Claire has been an outstanding Chairman and will be greatly missed. In October we welcomed Stacey Holden, Lis Millard, Alison Taylor and Mark Clayden. They have broad experience and, I know, will give great support to the school. Later in the year we welcomed Davinia Wynne, Andrew Redmond and Barry Collyer. We are also very fortunate to have the 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 been supporting Mrs Meares and the Staff to make the improvements highlighted by OFSTED. The School closed on 20th March in line with Government instructions dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic. I am pleased that all the pupils had the opportunity to return to school for some time before the end of term. I 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** – Kelly Hodkinson and Davinia Wynne

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

**6 Foundation Governors** - Stacey Holden and Mark Clayden appointed by the Parochial Church Council .

Alison Taylor, Elisabeth Millard and Andrew Redmond 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: Sept 19 -July 2020

### 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 5 at Terling School, the other in Year 9.

### Parent Governors –

Kelly Hodkinson

Kelly has been a parent governor at Terling since 2018. She has two daughters at the School, one in Year 4 and the other is in Reception. Kelly is a Deputy Headteacher in a large East London Primary School and has 17 years of primary school teaching experience.

Davinia Wynne

Davina was appointed as Parent Governor in 2020. She has two sons at the school, one in year 4 and the other in

year 1. Davinia has experience in purchasing and procurement for large organisations.

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

Annette Hurst

Annette has recently been appointed as a Foundation Governor and has lived in Terling for 8 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 of which is in year 3 and second due to start in September 2020. She is a teacher at Chipping Hill Primary School in Witham and has 12 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:**

Stacey Holden

Stacey has recently been appointed as a foundation governor and has lived in Terling for many years. She is a teacher at St. Anne's Prep School in Chelmsford Essex.

She has 13 years of teaching experience in England and many countries abroad.

She attends All Saints Church and helps with many village charity events.

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.

**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 including helping at the after school Explorers Club.

**Associate Governor**

Barry Collyer

The School has close links with Chipping Hill Primary School and we are pleased that their 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 2019 – July 2020**

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. The Governors did not meet in the first half of the Summer Term. Urgent business was conducted by email. The Governors held a virtual meeting in the second half of the Summer Term. Since Ofsted we have established a voluntary 'Improvement Board' with membership comprising Sarah Meares, Sarah McNamara, Kelly Hodkinson and representatives from the Local Authority and the Diocese.

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

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Attendance of meetings out of total possible number of meetings</b>	<b>Attendance at virtual meeting</b>
Mark Clayden	2/3	1/1
Barry Collyer	1/2	0/1
Kelly Hodgkinson	4/4	0/1
Stacey Holden	3/4	0/1
Annette Hurst	3/4	1/1
Sarah McNamara	4/4	1/1
Sarah Meares	4/4	1/1
Elisabeth Millard	4/4	1/1
Ruth Santos Brien	4/4	1/1
Andrew Sime	4/4	0/1
Alison Taylor	2/3	1/1
Davinia Wynne	2/2	1/1

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

During the last academic year Governors' monitoring visits have 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. Key points for action, identified by the Improvement Board, included EYFS, Curriculum, Data, SEN, Finance and the future direction of the School.

The closure of the School because of the COVID 19 situation means that these points will be carried forward into the next academic year. The Governors will also 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.