

## Jolesfield C.E. Primary School Governors

There have been some significant changes to the Governing Body in the last year, and with reduced 'face to face' time due to Covid restrictions, we felt it was important to take this opportunity to introduce, or re-introduce in many cases, ourselves to you all, and let you know how we support the school.

### What do we do?

The Governing Body of any school has three official core functions:

- a) Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- b) Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- c) Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent; and
- d) Ensuring the voices of stakeholders are heard.

In practical terms, this means that we work closely with the senior leadership team, the subject leaders and the support staff to ensure that all four of these elements are working as efficiently as possible, for the best possible experience for the children.

We do this through a number of different activities: meetings, budget and data reviews, learning walks and book looks with staff, talking to the staff, parents and children about their experiences and views. You may see us in classrooms, around the school or in the playground, at staff meetings or school council meetings, or calendar events such as Parents Evenings, Carol Services or Sports Day.



### How do you contact us?

Some of the governors are parents or staff at the school and you will see them in the playground. They are always available should you have any questions.

You can also contact the governors confidentially at the email address below:

[scrute@jolesfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:scrute@jolesfieldschool.co.uk)

### Who's Who:

	<p><b>Simon Crute – Chair of Governors</b> <b>Co-Opted Governor (Sept 2016 – Sept 2028)</b></p> <p>Simon has worked in the leisure industry for almost 30 years, with his last role being Dual General Manager at Steyning and Billingshurst Leisure Centre. In his spare time he enjoys walking and being with his family. He has two children, one who still attends Jolesfield. The older child is now attending Steyning Grammar School.</p>
	<p><b>Lizzie Bailey – Vice Chair of Governors</b> <b>Parent Governor (Oct 2017 – Oct 2025)</b></p> <p>Lizzie has one child at Jolesfield, and one who has been through Jolesfield, and a drive to support the school as an essential part of our community. Whilst not shuttling the boys around between school, sports and friends, she works in a primary school in Horsham. Lizzie &amp; family live in Partridge Green and make good use of the Downslink and surrounding countryside for walking, cycling and generally getting the parents, children and dog tired and muddy!</p>

	<p><b>Vicky Price – Headteacher (Sept 2022 – ongoing)</b>  Vicky is the headteacher here at Jolesfield school and is therefore part of the Governing body. She has worked in education for 25 years. Vicky’s career started initially as an applied behaviour therapist supporting children with autism before qualifying as a teacher and gaining experience in a variety of leadership roles. She lives in Burgess Hill with her family and pets. Vicky enjoys spending as much time as possible outside: hiking, stand-up paddle boarding and camping. Vicky is committed to working with the Governing Body to secure our shared vision of continuous improvement to make Jolesfield C.E. School outstanding in the view of parents/carers, staff, children and the whole community, as well as Ofsted.</p>
	<p><b>Liz Carey – Co-Opted Governor (July 2009 – Sept 2025)</b>  Liz joined the Governing Body in 2009. She has four children, all of whom have attended Jolesfield. Liz worked as a teacher in primary and nursery education for many years but retired from her part time job as a Teacher at Jolesfield in 2022. Her curriculum interests include music, art, Early Years and English and in her new found spare time enjoys gardening, reading, trips to the theatre, travelling, singing and she sings in a local choir.</p>
	<p><b>Emma Greenland - Parent Governor (Jan 2019 – July 2028)</b>  Emma is a parent governor. She lives in Partridge Green with husband Barny and two sons who both attend Jolesfield. She attended Jolesfield school as a child and moved back so that the family could enjoy the special community that this village offers, with Jolesfield School at its heart. She works as a consultant in the construction sector focusing on school building and classroom design for listening. She has acted as trustee for other charitable organisations.</p>
	<p><b>Reverend Alison Letschka – Ex Officio Foundation Governor (April 2018 – ongoing)</b>  Alison is the Rector of the parish of West Grinstead and lives in Partridge Green. She has been ordained for seventeen years, having served in West Sussex and the Diocese of Rochester. She was a foundation governor of a Church of England Primary School in her previous post and enjoys working with the governing body, staff and children at Jolesfield - being a regular visitor for assemblies and other learning opportunities.</p>
	<p><b>Sarah Evans - Parent Governor (Feb 2023 - Feb 2027)</b>  Sarah has one daughter currently at Jolesfield school and one who has been through the school. She has been a teacher for 17 years and now works as an LSA in a secondary school. Sarah is very interested in the pastoral care and mental wellbeing of children and feels it is a privilege to help provide them with a happy and safe environment in order to help them be their best selves. Sarah and her family have two crazy spaniels, who need lots of walks! She loves to read and spend time catching up with friends and family. Her wish is for every child at Jolesfield to feel safe and secure at school and be able to fulfil their own unique potential, both academically and personally.</p>



**Will Taylor - Staff Governor (Nov 2024 - Nov 2028)**

During his time at Jolesfield, Will has had the opportunity to work closely with both students and colleagues, fostering an environment of collaboration and support. He is particularly passionate about advocating for the needs of staff and students and ensuring that their voices are heard in decision-making processes. He feels that being a staff governor allows him to further these goals and work collaboratively with the governing body towards achieving the shared vision. He is excited about taking on this additional responsibility and believes that his energy and dedication to our school community will serve students, staff, and parents well. He is eager to contribute to discussions that enhance our school's performance and foster an environment where everyone can thrive.



**Sue Barnard - Authority Governor (Jan 2025 - Jan 2029)**

Sue has worked in education for over 25 years as an HLTA, a Staff Governor and latterly as a School Secretary. She retired in September 2023 and wanted to use her wide-ranging experience in school to contribute to the local community as a Governor on behalf of the Local Authority. Sue loves spending time with her family: a daughter, a son and their partners and her five grandchildren. She also enjoys running, cycling, walking, swimming, pilates and yoga plus any outdoor activity and invigilates for exams at a local secondary school.



**Emma Chandler - Parent Governor (Nov 2020 - Nov 2028)**

Emma is a parent governor at Jolesfield, where she currently has two children attending the school. As an experienced primary school teacher, she brings a wealth of educational knowledge and insight to her role on the governing body. Emma is passionate about working with children and finds great joy in being part of their learning journey, helping them grow, develop confidence, and reach their full potential.

She lives in Partridge Green and enjoys the close-knit community and beautiful surroundings the village offers. In her spare time, Emma enjoys walking and cycling with her family, making the most of the local countryside.



My name is Sam and I'm 42, I have worked in the fitness industry for over 20 years, including 15 years as a personal trainer and specialist in exercise referral, supporting individuals with a wide range of health conditions. In my role as a Fitness Manager, I lead a team of five staff members and have extensive experience in communication, safeguarding, problem-solving, and helping people reach their potential.

For the past two years, I have also served as a retained firefighter in Partridge Green. This role has strengthened my teamwork, resilience, and ability to stay calm and focused under pressure—qualities I believe are valuable in a school governance setting.

I am passionate about community wellbeing and would welcome the opportunity to support the school's continued development. Outside of work, I'm a keen sports fan, especially when it comes to Arsenal.

## **Key to Governors:**

**Authority Governors** – Authority Governors are appointed by the Local Authority. They are members of the community who have expressed a desire to serve as a governor of a school; they do not have to have any direct association with the school but they may do so.

**Staff Governors** – There is one Governor from staff; they can be from teaching or support staff. They are a conduit between the staff and the Governing Body. Staff Governors are elected by staff members. The Headteacher can choose to be a Governor or not; Mr Trahern has chosen to be a Governor.

**Foundation Governors** – Foundation Governors are appointed on the recommendation of the Parochial Church Council with the purpose of preserving and developing so far as practicable, the character of the school. Otherwise they share the same duties and responsibilities as the other members of the Governing Body. The Priest in Charge of West Grinstead is appointed as an ex-officio governor by the Diocese (this means whoever holds the position is automatically appointed as a governor).

**Co-Opted Governors** – The Governing Body appoints Co-Opted Governors. Through these appointments, the Governing Body try to ensure a mixture of expertise, knowledge and skills amongst their membership.

**Parent Governors** – Parents of pupils at the school elect Parent Governors. They are Governors in their own right and their interests are not just restricted to matters of concern to parents. They share the same duties and responsibilities as other members of the Governing Body, but their particular function is to ensure that a parental view is expressed in relation to matters under consideration by the Governing Body.