

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Board of Governors – September 2022 to August 2023

MEMBERS	POSITION	GOVERNOR TYPE	TERM END
Darren Cohen		Co-opted	16/05/2025
Juliette Curtis		Staff	08/03/2027
Kim Harding		Co-opted	Stepped down Oct' 2022
Nicolle Rowson		Co-opted	19/10/2024
Andrew Little		Co-opted	10/01/2026
Claire Hogg	VICE CHAIR Jan 2023 – Jan 2024	Parent	03/10/2023
Mark Jepson	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER	Co-opted	18/01/2025
Richard Kurzyca	CHAIR OF GOVERNORS Oct 2022 – Oct 2025	Co-opted	28/11/2026
Mark Lowrie		Co-opted	24/11/2023
Sourabh Mittal		Local Authority	Stepped down Mar' 2023
Ajay Sharma		Co-opted	16/01/2027
Matt O'Grady	HEADTEACHER	Staff	Ex-officio

There are two vacancies for Co-opted governor, one vacancy for a local authority governor, and one vacancy for a parent 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 2022 to August 2023

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, Nicolle Rowson and Keith Pullen (external adviser).

Teachers' Pay Committee: Darren Cohen, Andrew Little, Claire Hogg, Mark Lowrie and Ajay Sharma.

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 2022 to August 2023

MEMBERS	Number of Board meetings attended this year
Darren Cohen	5 of 6 (83%)
Juliette Curtis	6 of 6 (100%)
Andrew Little	6 of 6 (100%)
Claire Hogg	5 of 6 (83%)
Mark Jepson	6 of 6 (100%)
Richard Kurzyca	6 of 6 (100%)
Mark Lowrie	3 of 6 (50%)
Nicolle Rowson	5 of 6 (83%)
Ajay Sharma	4 of 4 (100%)
Matt O’Grady	5 of 6 (83%)

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 an 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

During the course of the year, Kim Harding and Sourabh Mittal resigned as Governors due to pressure from other commitments. We very much appreciate the work that Kim (who had been a Governor for over 25 years) and Sourabh made to the functioning of the Governing Board.

Nicolle Rowson has now changed her designation from parent Governor to Co-opted Governor. We have also welcomed Ajay Sharma who joined the Governing Board in January 2023 as a Co-opted Governor.

Our Governing Board meetings have now returned to face-to-face meetings, and we have welcomed the opportunity to meet all the teachers face-to-face.

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

- 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 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.

Other Documents

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