

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Board of Governors – September 2023 to August 2024

MEMBERS	POSITION	GOVERNOR TYPE	TERM END
Darren Cohen		Co-opted	16/05/2025
Juliette Curtis		Staff	08/03/2027
Nicolle Rowson		Co-opted	Stepped down Sept' 2024
Andrew Little		Co-opted	10/01/2026
Claire Hogg	VICE CHAIR Jan 2023 – Jan 2024	Parent	Stepped down July 2024
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	Term ended Nov' 2023
Ajay Sharma		Co-opted	16/01/2027
Olalekan Ogundana		Local Authority	06/05/2028
Matthew Williams		Co-opted	05/02/2028
Matt O'Grady	HEADTEACHER	Staff	Ex-officio

There are two vacancies for Co-opted governor, and one vacancy for 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 2023 to August 2024

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, Andrew Little, 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 2023 to August 2024

MEMBERS	Number of Board meetings attended this year
Darren Cohen	3 of 6 (50%)
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%)
Nicolle Rowson	4 of 6 (66%)
Ajay Sharma	5 of 6 (83%)
Olalekan Ogundana	3 of 4 (75%)
Matthew Williams	3 of 4 (75%)
Matt O’Grady	6 of 6 (100%)

Training Undertaken by Governors

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

- Staff wellbeing webinars.
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) basics for schools.
- School finances.
- The monitoring role of governors.
- 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, Claire Hogg and Nicolle Rowson resigned as Governors due to pressure from other commitments. We very much appreciate the work that Claire and Nicolle made to the functioning of the Governing Board.

We have welcomed Matthew Williams and Olalekan Ogundana and who joined the Governing Board in February 2023 and May 2023, respectively. Matthew joined as a Co-opted Governor, and Olalekan as a Local Authority Governor.

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 changed the provider our independent training to the National Governance Association from Juniper Education.

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.