



St Paul's Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Elizabeth Vautier-Thomas BA Ed (Hons)

Wednesday 29th January 2025

Dear All

On behalf of the Governors at St Pauls CE Primary school, I wanted to provide an update on the role of governors at St Pauls CE Primary school and introduce the governors who make up the Full Governing Board.

The Governing Body at St Pauls CE Primary school are a team of hard working and committed individuals, dedicated to ensuring that the school maintains and builds upon the highest possible standards of education and care for its children.

We are proud to play our part in the strategic leadership of the school, in close partnership with the Headteacher and staff. Our Governors use their experience from a wide range of professional backgrounds to help shape future strategy, agree policy and ensure accountability. We are ultimately responsible for making sure that the public money used to run the school is used prudently, academic and welfare standards are maintained and that the School Improvement Plan is monitored.

What does the governing board do?

The 3 core functions of the governing board

- That the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- That the headteacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school
- The sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources

Who are the governors?

All school Governors give their time and energy on an entirely voluntary basis because we care passionately about our school, its children, its staff and its place in our wider community

Lee Hurcomb – Chair of Governors - Parent Governor

Last year I joined the governing body at St Pauls CE Primary School as a parent governor prior to being elected to my current role as Chair of Governors. My background is in the food industry working for food manufacturers who supply products to the major retailers. I have held various sales and management positions during my career and more recently have held the positions of Commercial Director and Managing Director.

Rosemary Burrow - Vice Chair of Governors - Foundation Governor

I became a Foundation school governor because, after retiring as an Early Years teacher, I wanted to continue to help and support children's care, education, and spiritual well-being. A church school offers a unique environment where values, such as compassion and respect are at the heart of the community. As a Christian I value the opportunity to support this vision.



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†In your light shall we see light

Chris Hodgkinson - Foundation Governor

I joined the governing body as a Foundation governor when my daughter was at St Paul's, and I am excited, dedicated and committed to working closely with all governors and staff to ensure we all continually strive, learn, develop and meet any challenges to allow the school to allow all students to reach their full potential and become great ambassadors in this community. I have worked in food retail management for over 3 decades and bring all the knowledge, skills, and experience I have obtained in this time to my roles on the board.

Ben Caldicott - Foundation Governor

I am excited to join the governing body at St Paul's CE Primary School. With many years of experience in education, including serving as a Headteacher, I have dedicated my career to improving educational outcomes and fostering supportive learning environments. I am passionate about contributing my expertise to support pupil achievement and well-being, and I look forward to working closely with the staff, students, and community at St Paul's.

Susie Hay - Foundation Governor

I bring to my role as Safeguarding Governor over 24 years of working within the social care sector across a variety of different settings. This has included both direct work and indirect with and/or for vulnerable people, including survivors, children, young people, and those using harmful behaviours in a domestic violence and abuse, safeguarding, looked after and/or mental health context.

I have a master's degree in Domestic Violence and Abuse, alongside being a qualified and accredited Trauma Psychotherapist and Clinical Supervisor, with specialist training around Children and Young People, Psychological Trauma and Consultative and Clinical supervision.

I was also previously a Governor at St. Pauls for 4 years when my three children were attending the school back in 2019.

Simon Fields - Parent Governor

I am immensely proud and excited to have been appointed a Parent Governor at St Paul's. My eldest daughter currently attends St Paul's. I have many years of experience working as a teacher within Herefordshire as well as being a member of the senior leadership team responsible for multiple key areas across the school both strategic and education based. I have dedicated my career to improving opportunities for young people and I look forward to taking this further in my role as a Governor. I am dedicated to the role and look forward to working with the Governors, staff, and other stakeholders to continue the fabulous work that goes into providing the best start in life for our children.

Claire Finch - Clerk to Governors

I recently joined St Paul's Primary School as the Governance Professional. With several years' experience in Governance, I work for many schools across three counties. My role is to ensure the governing body fulfils their role in supporting the school and holding the leadership team to account, whilst ensuring money is well spent.

Other members of the Governing Board

The other members of the Governing Board are Head teacher Mrs. Vautier-Thomas (ex Officio) & Deputy Head teacher Mrs Bagley (Staff Governor) who I am sure need no introduction but are recognised as valuable and important members of the School & Governing Board.

Finally, we are waiting for Revd Andy Dodwell to start his new post at St Pauls Church in March. He will join the governing board as ex Officio.

I hope you find the above useful.

Kind regards

Lee Hurcomb
Chair of Governors

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