

# Hemingford Grey Primary School Governor Newsletter

November 2023

## **Leadership:**

Vanessa Allen continues as Chair of the Governing Body, following her first very successful year in the role. Kristi Johnson is supporting as Vice-Chair. The Governing Body are looking forward to welcoming Danielle Gaynor into the role new Co-Headteacher in January; we join other Cambridgeshire primary schools in adopting a Co-Headship model of school leadership. Together we are leading a great school with a committed staff team who put your children at the centre of all they do.

## **Governors:**

We have been pleased to welcomed a new governor already this term, Danni Lewell. She brings skills and experience from her work in HR and employment support within the education sector that will benefit the work of the governing body. On page 2 you will find information about the members of our Governing Body.







Could you or someone you know be a School Governor? We have a vacancy for a co-opted / community governor. There is information on the school website about the governor role, so if you know of someone who would make a good governor (maybe a grandparent, friend, neighbour or colleague) direct them to our website. We are looking for people with a range of skills and experience (an education background is not required!).

## **The work of the Governing Body so far this school year:**

We continue with the arrangement trialled last year, for all the business of the Governing Body to be dealt with through monthly meetings rather than some going to committees; we found this to be an effective way of working and for all governors to build knowledge in all aspects of the work of the school. Here is some of the work the Governing Body has completed over this half term:

- The recruitment of our new Co-Headteacher.
- Approved the school's strategic development plan (SDP) and reviewed the end 22/23 end of year pupil performance data, ensuring that key focus areas are incorporated within the SDP, such as reading.
- Agreed the plan for Governor monitoring visits for the year. These enables us to check the SDP is being actioned and that we can see in practice what is being reported to us by the Headteacher and senior leadership team.
- The annual review, updating and approving of all the operational documents needed to ensure the effective operation of the Governing Body.
- Taken a strategic mid-year look at the performance of school budget and starting discussions about strategic planning for balancing the 24/25 budget.

# Who is your Governing Board

	Vanessa Allen	Chair and Parent Governor	I've been part of the board since 2016. I live in Hemingford Grey and work part-time for a housing association managing older peoples housing. My children have attended HGPS since 2014, two are now at secondary school, with just the youngest left in primary. The experience I bring to the governing body from my work are around H&S, HR, and managing budgets.
	Kirsten Marriott	Headteacher	I have worked as headteacher at HGPS since January 2019 and am so proud of the motto of Together Everyone Achieves More, which is a living reality of the many teams in school: staff, governors, pupils, parent/carers and the wider community. Working with the governing body is a key part of my strategic role as headteacher, particularly working on the strategic development priorities.
	Kristi Johnson	Parent Governor	I joined the governing body as a Parent Governor in 2021. I have two children at the school so keen to ensure the school can be the best it can be. My background is finance and knowing how important school budgeting is, I wanted to be able to use my professional experience to give back to the local community.
	Danielle Saunders	Parent Governor	I am a Mum of three, two who attend Hemingford Grey School and Pre-School. I have been a secondary school teacher for 10 years, and a Safeguarding lead too. I joined the governing board around a year ago as a parent governor and hope my safeguarding and education knowledge supports me in my governor role.
	James Reid	Parent Governor	I have 4 children who all attend Hemingford Grey School, and have been a Governor since March 2023. I am the Operations Director for a specialist passive fire protection company, overseeing delivery of multiple projects over the country. I am keen to assist with implementation and change management in the main, but hope to offer further value to the Governing Board through my experience of 12 years in the Royal Air Force too.
	Danielle Jermy	Staff Governor	I was delighted to join the Hemingford Grey Team as deputy headteacher in 2019. Prior to this I have been teaching and leading in schools in Milton Keynes and Hertfordshire. My roles in school also include, Pupil Premium Lead, Domestic Abuse Lead, Mental Health First Aider and Behaviour Lead. My passion and motivator is to develop an inclusive school where everyone feels valued and successful.

# Who is your Governing Board

	Helen Peat	Co-Opted Governor	I've been on the Governing Board since 2002 when my (now grown-up) children were at the school taking on a variety of roles and chairing for 10 years. Professionally, I work at the British Antarctic Survey, and I also volunteer with the RSPB and on School Admission Appeals Panels.
	Amelia Beeley	Co-Opted Governor	I am a mum of two, who moved to Hemingford Grey in 2022 and joined the governing body to give something back to the local community. I work implementing development and humanitarian programmes globally, and hope to bring the variety of my professional experience to support me in the governor role.
	Jasmin Ash	Co-Opted Governor	I am a mum of two young boys and live in Hemingford Grey. I am a primary school teacher and have worked in various education roles since I moved here from Scotland 10 years ago.
	Danielle Lewell	Co-Opted Governor	I am delighted to join the Hemingford Grey Governing Body. I work within the Education Sector and hope my knowledge of the industry will support in my Governing role.
	Carlie Huddleston	Clerk	I started Clerking for the Governors in May 2022. I am a Mum of four, with three children currently attending Hemingford Grey School. My job is to carry out the administration duties for the Governors along with attending meetings and taking the minutes.