



# Governors Newsletter

## Our Governing Body

All schools in England have a Governing Body which is responsible for overseeing many of the strategic decisions of the school. A key role is to act as a 'critical friend': to support, to challenge, to ask questions, ultimately to represent the school community.

The Governing Body works in close partnership with the Executive Head, Head of School, staff and the local authority. Whilst the Executive Head and Head of School are, of course, responsible for the day to day running of the school, the governors are involved with such things as staffing, curriculum, school buildings and finance. It ensures the school functions well and maintains the proper range of academic and social objectives.

The composition of the present governing body, under the [2012 School Governance Regulations](#), consists of:

The Executive Headteacher

One elected staff governor

Two elected parent governors

One appointed local authority governor

Seven co-opted governors

The standard term of office for a governor is four years. The chair and vice-chair are elected bi-annually at the first meeting of the academic year.

The Chair of Governors is Mr. Colin Lumbis, who can be contacted via the school office. The Vice Chair is Cllr Alice Grice.

## Colin Lumbis, Chair of Governors, Co-opted Governor

Colin has been a school governor since 2006, joining the governing body of a primary school in Mansfield. He was asked by the LA to become a governor at Annie Holgate Junior School late 2013. He particularly enjoyed his time as chair of governors for the temporary governing body for the amalgamation of the junior and infant school which culminated with the opening of the new school building. He is now the chair of governors at Sutton Road Primary in Mansfield and Jeffries Primary which Holgate Primary School is in a collaboration with. He is a Civil Engineer and lives in Mansfield Woodhouse. He has an allotment and is a bee-keeper.

**Term of office start date: 13/10/2014 end date: 12/10/2018**





### **Cllr Alice Grice, Vice Chair, Local Authority Governor**

Alice represents Hucknall on Nottinghamshire County Council. She sits on the children and Young People's Committee as well as the Public Health committee. Alice is also the Vice Chair of the County Council's Community Safety Committee and is the Lead Member on Domestic Violence. Alice studied for a BA Hons in English Language and Literature with The Open University and is the lead governor for English at Holgate Primary. Alice also volunteers with the WEA (Worker's Education Association) and is a founding member of the UK's only women's branch of the WEA. She has lived in Hucknall for over 10 years and has two young children.

**Term of office start date: 13/10/2014 end date: 12/10/2018**

### **Kirsty Riley, Parent Governor**

Kirsty currently works as a Manager for Nottingham City Council and has over 20 years' experience of managing people. She has two children who both attend Holgate Primary and has been a Governor at the school since 2013, initially at the Infant School. She relishes the challenge of being a Governor and is passionate about ensuring that our children get the support that they need to achieve their potential and that we create a positive environment for staff and pupils alike.



**Term of office start date: 13/10/2014 end date: 12/10/2018**

### **Paul Derriscott, Co-opted Governor**



Paul was born in Nottingham, living in and around Hucknall for a number of years, then moving to Woodthorpe and more recently Newthorpe to enjoy the rural lifestyle. His family is packed full of teachers; both his parents were teachers and his Uncle was the Head Teacher of a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities school in Liverpool. Paul is a CIMA Qualified Accountant and has worked in both the Public and Private Sectors. More recently, since 2007 to present day, Paul has worked for Experian and it was here that he was given the opportunity to become a Community School Governor and he jumped at the chance.

Especially, as it gave him the ability to give something back to the town where he was born, and raised. He started with Annie Holgate Infant and Nursery School then migrated to Holgate Primary and Nursery School.

**Term of Office Start Date: 13/10/2014 End Date: 12/10/2018**

### **Alan Willows, Parent Governor**

Alan Willows has lived in Hucknall all of his life. His son attends the school and is the reason he chose to become a governor. He is self-employed running a small health and safety related business, and feels this is useful in his role as a governor. He hopes to assist the school in becoming the school in the area for all the others to aspire too.

**Term of Office Start Date: 01/10/2014 End Date: 30/09/2018**



### **Cheryl Cavill, Co-opted Governor**



Up until recently, Cheryl worked for 12 years in the Financial Services industry, as a senior Business Analyst, managing medium to large projects, with clients and involved third parties. Cheryl did enjoy this career, which offered numerous challenges and achievements. However her dream had always been to work with children and when the opportunity arose she took it! She is currently retraining working on her Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and learning.

Cheryl has a son who is at Holgate Primary and initially became a school parent governor in 2012, when he started at Annie Holgate Infant school. In her "spare time" she is an assistant leader at a local Beaver scout group, which she enjoys immensely.

**Term of Office Start Date: 13/10/2014 End Date: 12/10/2018**



### **Chris Orr, Co-opted Governor**

Chris has worked for nearly almost 20 years in the energy business in strategy and finance roles, in both the UK and Germany. He moved to Hucknall 10 years ago and has a daughter at Holgate Primary. Chris sees the opportunity as a School Governor as a way to become more engaged in the local community and support the school in any way possible.

**Term of office start date: 14/12/2015 end date: 13/12/2019**

### **Tracy Mullaney, Associate Governor**

Tracy has lived in Mansfield since 2003 and has a son who used to attend Sutton Road Primary School. Having worked in the Business and Voluntary Sectors in the past, Tracy is currently the Executive Personal Assistant for the collaboration of Jeffries, Holgate and Sutton Road Primary Schools. Tracy has been on the Governing Body at Sutton Road since 2008, initially as a Parent Governor, when she spent some time as Vice Chair, then a Community Governor and more recently as an Associate. Tracy is proud to be part of the collaboration of schools that are working hard to deliver excellent provision for our children.

**Term of office start date: 02/04/2015 end date: 01/04/2019**



### **Debbie Bent, Co-opted Governor**

Debbie is married with two grown up sons. She has lived in Hucknall for 21 years. While her boys were in school she was a full time mum and very much part of the NDCS (Nottingham Deaf Children's Society) where she was on the committee as the secretary. Debbie joined the governing body of Annie Holgate Junior School back in 2000. She became a midday supervisor in 2002 and joined the Holgate Primary office team in 2014. Debbie loves her job and interacting with children.

**Term of office start date: 13/10/2014 end date: 12/10/2018**

### **Emma Severn, Staff Governor**

Emma joined Holgate Primary as Head of School in September 2014. This was following the amalgamation of Annie Holgate Infant school and Annie Holgate Junior school. Emma has previously worked in schools in the Mansfield area and has been in education for approximately 16 years. Since joining the school there has been many changes, becoming one Primary School rather than two separate schools and of course the fortunate move into our brand new school building. The collaboration has been the key driver in improving the standards and outcomes for our children at Holgate, making sure our children achieve the best opportunities we can give them. Emma has two primary aged children herself and understands well the importance of working with parents and carers to support our children.

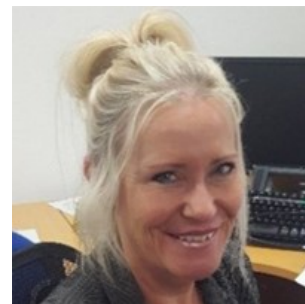
**Term of office start date: 01/10/2014 end date: 30/09/2018**



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### **Nicola Davies, Executive Head**

Nicola has been the substantive Headteacher at Sutton Road Primary School since 1998 and has worked across more than one school as an Executive Headteacher for the past four and a half years within the Mansfield and Ashfield area. In Autumn 2013 Nicola joined Annie Holgate Junior School and supported their amalgamation of it with its neighbouring Infant School which opened as a brand new Primary in 2014. Holgate Primary School and Sutton Road Primary School have been in a formal collaboration under her leadership since this time. We have also recently welcomed Jeffries Primary School into the collaboration. Nicola says, "I have had many challenges and ups and downs during the time I have led schools but have learnt a great deal on the journey so far. I thoroughly enjoy seeing successes for the schools I am lucky enough to lead and am deeply and resolutely committed to improving the outcomes and life chances for all the amazing children I feel privileged to serve, across the schools, alongside our hardworking staff teams."



**Term of office start date: 01/10/2014**

### **We are looking to recruit new governors for all three governing bodies within our collaboration of Holgate, Jeffries and Sutton Road Primary Schools.**

We are seeking people with the skills and enthusiasm to engage in the improvement work of the collaboration and ensure leaders are achieving the best outcomes possible for our children. Working under the leadership of an energetic and experienced Chair, our governing bodies meet a minimum of three times per year, once each school term. Combined Committees and smaller groups of governors also meet as working parties once or twice per school term. A governor's term of office is normally four years, but a governor can resign at any time.

All you need is a keen mind and a desire to ask challenging questions in the interest of improving the life chances of children. A programme of induction, training and support is provided by the schools as well as through Local Authority Governor Services.

If you are, or know someone who is, interested in volunteering as a school governor for one of the schools and would like to find out more, please contact Tracy Mullaney by email [tmullaney@suttonroad.org](mailto:tmullaney@suttonroad.org) or call:

Holgate Primary & Nursery School on 0115 956 8281

Jeffries Primary School on 01623 460274

Sutton Road Primary School & Nursery on 01623 455920

There is no closing date for this opportunity, as we always want to have an open door to good and talented governors.

