



We are very lucky to have the supportive Governors that we already have. They are, however, always looking for people who would like to help us shape the future of the school and there are spaces for Parent Governors on the Governing Body should anyone be interested. It would involve 4 Full Governing Body meetings a year, (a couple more if on the Finance Committee) and being able to visit school and talk to staff. All meetings are in the evening and are predominantly online at present.

This is the experience of two of our Governors:

Chris Allan

Areas of responsibility – Finance Chair, Health & Safety, Maths.

I became involved in school governance because both of my girls attended SEIS. I have a strong belief in Education being the key to unlocking opportunities in later life and also a sense of giving something back and being involved in the local community. I work in team management in manufacturing, so my areas of responsibility are a natural fit with this. Learning how the school function and measure its performance have been really interesting, and I've been keen to lend a hand with practical help with Health & Safety matters, none more so than controlling COVID risks recently in testing times for the school.

It's great to get to know the staff better and I can personally reassure you that there are no more passionate about getting the best for every child, than the staff here. They go above and beyond: to see them personally delivering packages and work in their own time, to the doors of every single child isolating at home at times this past year, has been truly humbling. Being part of the school governing body has helped me to develop personally, in that I can see problems that could be solved using tools and skills from my career and applying them in a completely new environment, but it has also given me experience of areas of management that I had previously not been exposed to.

Mrs Bland – Associate Governor

(who you will know better as a member of staff!)

I have been a governor at South End Infant School since my eldest son started at the school 18 years ago, curious to know what his school family and life would be like once I dropped him off at the gate. Having nominated myself for election, been successfully voted on to the governing body as a parent representative and fully briefed on what was expected of me in the role, I quickly settled into being able to join in meetings and contribute to policy, financial, curriculum & strategic decisions. I participated in the recruitment process for staff and my background of working for Nationwide Building Society bought useful business experience to any planning or discussions. I was also required to oversee an area of the curriculum, which in my case was art and required me to meet with staff and see for myself how the subject was taught in school, often helping children as they created their masterpieces.

When my younger son started school I was free to attend more regularly and this is when I realised how much I enjoyed supporting the children in their learning, taking the opportunity to complete my NVQ3 before being employed as an LSA and TA, then going on to complete my BA (hons) degree in child and adolescent studies. Some of you may recognise me as Mrs Bland, HLTA in Year 1 and due to the fact that my boys are now adults I am a staff governor rather than a parent one. I am proud to have been associated with the school for so long, remember all the children that have been taught here in that time by an amazing team of staff, who in turn are supported in their endeavours by a committed governing body. My experience, from more than one perspective, has shown me how everyone at SEIS works together with the same goal of providing the best possible care, teaching and outcomes (both socially and academically) for the children entrusted to them whilst supporting and developing strong relationships with parents or carers.

The National Governance Association has a brief overview of what being a Governor involves at: [Volunteering as a Governor in School](#) but you could also ask at the school office what it entails or we could put you in touch with one of our existing Governors.

Governors play a vital role for schools as they bring their own skills, thoughts and diverse backgrounds to fully represent a school community so, if you are at all interested, please get in touch.