



# Bomere & the XI Towns Federation

## Governor Spotlight

### May 2017



## Governor Profile

### Helen Antelo

#### Chair of Governors



I am a part-time teacher and have 4 children - the youngest two are at Ruyton. We have lived in Bolivia, Hampshire and Hertfordshire, before finally settling in Shropshire 4 years ago. I have been involved in many different types of schools in

interesting places, either as a teacher or a parent. For a long time, I have been drawn to governance, and I enjoy being part of the decision-making, understanding how our 2 schools run, and giving something back to our schools and our great, if demanding, education system. As chair, I meet regularly with our Executive Headteacher to support and challenge decision-making, and to monitor various aspects of our schools. I also oversee the effective running of our Governing team. In my spare time I enjoy walking, cooking, gardening, singing and being with my family!

## Members of the Governing Body

Helen Antelo	Chair of Governors
Lisa Holland	Vice Chair/Parent Governor
Julie Ball	Executive Headteacher
Kirsty Foulkes	Deputy Headteacher (Co-opted)
Stuart Field	Deputy Headteacher (Co-opted)
Katie Farmer	Staff Governor
Colin Case	Local Authority Governor
Lucinda Burns	Foundation Governor
Claire Vuckovic	Foundation Governor
Mary-Lou Toop	Foundation Governor
Pat Hall	Foundation Governor
Alison Oldham	Parent Governor
Mick Berry	Co-opted Governor
Keith Lister	Co-opted Governor
Steph Hughes	Co-opted Governor
Ros Slowley	Co-opted Governor
<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Co-opted</b>
<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Co-opted</b>

### UPDATE

Since November 2016, our Governing body has a new Chair, Helen Antelo. See her profile above.

### What do Governors do?

Governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in our school. They hold the main responsibility for finance in school and work alongside the Executive Headteacher to make decisions about budgeting. Governors work with the schools to set the strategic direction, aims and objectives, and to monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achieving them. They appoint, support and challenge the senior leaders.

### Governor Vacancies

Anyone over the age of 18 can become a Governor. You do not need any particular qualification or a dedicated knowledge of the education sector. In our federation, we carry out an annual skills audit of our Governors to ensure that we have a wide skill set as a group. We are currently looking to recruit new members with experience or interest in the areas of finance and/or safeguarding.

## **What does the commitment look like?**

The formal commitment is to attend 3 full governing body meetings per year which includes reading in preparation for these meetings. We will also look towards providing you with training to match you to a committee or link governor role, which would involve separate meetings.

## **What are the benefits?**

Becoming a governor affords an excellent opportunity to learn about the evolving education system and better understand the running of our two schools. It also helps you to develop links with the community and support the educational experiences and outcomes for all the children at Bomere Heath and St John the Baptist Schools. It is also acknowledged that experience gained through working as a governor is a helpful addition to a CV when applying for jobs. To find out more about the role of a governor or express an interest in joining, please email one of us: Helen Antelo ([chair@ruyton.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:chair@ruyton.shropshire.sch.uk)) or Lisa Holland ([holland.l@ruyton.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:holland.l@ruyton.shropshire.sch.uk)).

## **Class Structure Changes**

You will aware that both schools made the move from 5 to 4 classes in September 2016. In Bomere, our new classes are called Pimhill (Reception/Year 1), Haughmond (Year 2/3), Stiperstones (Year 3/4) and Wrekin (Year 5/6). At Ruyton, our new classes are Hedgehogs (Reception/Year 1), Rabbits (Year 2/3), Dragonflies (Year 4/5) and Owls (Year 5/6). After the Easter break, Ruyton also took over responsibility for the on-site Nursery and now provides wrap-around care for children aged from 2 to 11 years old, from 8.00am until 5.45pm). This is part of our overall strategy to ensure that we serve the changing needs of our local communities with quality provision, both now and into the future. There is a separate pre-school provision operated on-site at Bomere too.

## **National picture around academisation and collaboration with other schools**

As you know, we already collaborate with our local cluster schools including the Secondary school and we continue to meet regularly to discuss the government's ongoing academy agenda. We do this to ensure we are in the best position to shape our own destiny and safeguard the ethos and values of both our individual schools. Every discussion continues to be focussed on the best interests of the children, families and staff of our two communities.

## **Monitoring**

Governors have been very active in monitoring all aspects of school life. We have appointed new staff for both schools; we have monitored the quality of teaching and learning through our Standards & Curriculum committee as well as regular link governor visits; we have monitored behaviour, safety and safeguarding through link visits, parent governor involvement and committee work. We have also attended e-safety, RSE and child protection training with staff and parents as well as governing training with the Local Authority Advisors on data analysis for the whole governing body

## **New Bibles**

Following an audit of current resources in the schools, a bid was submitted to the Diocese to support the purchase of new bibles at Bomere Heath, for which we received £100.

For more information about what the Governors of our Federation do, please visit the school websites:

[www.bomereheath.shropshire.sch.uk](http://www.bomereheath.shropshire.sch.uk)

[www.ruytonschool.org.uk](http://www.ruytonschool.org.uk)