



# Bomere & the XI Towns Federation

## Governor Spotlight

### July 2020



## A message from Keith Lister Chair of Governors

In our last Newsletter, I commented that my first year as Chair of Governors was a very busy and challenging year with amongst other things, Ofsted and SIAMS Inspections. Little did we know then of course about the challenges that this year would throw at us all!

Throughout the coronavirus lockdowns, our staff have strived to ensure that we were able to provide safe and reliable care for key worker's children and stimulating and challenging on line lessons for pupils at home. More recently, a huge amount of preparation and planning has gone into the safe and successful wider opening of our schools, at first to Nursery, Reception and Years 1 and 6, and subsequently to all year groups; As a Board of Governors, we couldn't be more delighted and proud of the support that we have received from pupils, staff and parents alike during this unprecedented time so a huge thank you from us all.

Being a School Governor is a fascinating and very rewarding experience and I am very fortunate to be supported by a Governing Body with a wide range of skills and backgrounds. We have a vacancy at the moment, so if you would like to help make a difference to our schools, please let Lisa (Vice Chair) or me know directly or via either school office. Thank you for your continued support to our Federation.

**Keith Lister, Chair of Governors**

## Members of the Governing Body

Keith Lister	Chair of Governors (Co-opted)
Lisa Holland	Vice Chair (Co-opted Governor)
Julie Ball	Executive Headteacher
Sallie Roberts	Deputy Headteacher (Co-opted)
Katie Farmer	Staff Governor
Andrea Hall	Local Authority Governor
Lucinda Burns	Foundation Governor
Barbara Gallimore	Foundation Governor
Mary-Lou Toop	Foundation Governor
Emma Quigley	Foundation Governor
Rachel Hudson	Parent Governor
Tony Simpson	Co-opted Governor
Jenn Varney	Co-opted Governor
James Reynolds	Parent Governor
Chris Beddoes	Co-opted Governor
Neville Ward	Co-opted Governor
Hannah Reynolds	Associate Governor
Steph Henney	Associate Governor

## Update

Following a number of new Governor appointments during the last year, we have enjoyed a period of stability with our new colleagues settling in well to their new roles.

Most recently, we have been delighted to welcome Neville Ward, who brings broad educational and previous Governing experience. We have included short Biographies Neville and one of our other newer Governors on page 2.

## What do Governors do?

Governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in our school. We 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. We appoint, support and challenge the senior leaders and have an important role in ensuring that all stakeholders in the schools have a voice.

## New Governor Profiles



**Neville Ward** — I am employed by Shropshire Council within the Early Years and Childcare team, part of the Education Directorate. I have worked closely with both schools in relation to the nursery provision on the school sites and agreed to become a governor when my term of office at my previous school came to an end last year. Prior to that I was a school governor at the primary school my children attended. I live in Wales, have 4 grown up children only one of whom still lives at home, and enjoy anything that enables me to be outside, whatever the weather.

**Tony Simpson** — I am a Chartered Engineer having worked within manufacturing for over 40 years. Currently I am Divisional Manufacturing Manager for a Global business in the Electrical Sector and I've held various management posts in the Automotive sector. I love living in Shropshire having done so for over 20 years. I am honoured to join the team of Governors, my initial introduction leaving me in awe of the dedication and passion shown by the staff and volunteers alike. I am looking forward to contributing to the future success of the schools.



**Hannah Reynolds** — I am an Associate (Link) Governor for the school. I have a daughter in year 5 and 2 older children at the Corbet School. I am a Speech and Language Therapist for the NHS. We relocated to the area a year ago. I was keen to return to a role as a governor as I have been one in the past and really enjoyed the opportunity. Outside work I volunteer as a Guide leader and enjoy singing in choirs

## Training

Staff and governors alike are provided with a wide variety of regular training sessions to support continuing professional development and school improvement activities.

During the first half of this academic year, governors received face to face training in the areas of child protection, positive psychology and safer recruitment as well as our foundation governors undertaking specialized courses in spiritual development and understanding Christianity. Link governors updated their training in the areas of safeguarding and looked after children. Courses are now beginning to resume online and we are looking forward to following a new programme of training in the Autumn term.

We also look forward to welcoming parents and carers to consultation meetings and SEND and Values workshops as soon as we are able, where we hope to be able to share the benefits of training updates with you.

## Class Structure

Bomere Heath will remain at 5 classes and Ruyton will reduce to 3 classes in September based on current roll numbers.

## Home School Agreement

We support and encourage parents to engage with school and have summarised this in the Home School Agreement which is available on our website.

## A year in numbers

Approximately!

Hours spent in meetings per governor - 40 hours

Link Governor visits into school - 62 hours in total

Total hours spent on training - 40 hours

## Are you interested in becoming a governor?

If so, please contact the office at either school, or speak to Keith (Chair) or Lisa (Vice Chair). Our current need is for new governors with an interest in, or experience of, Performance Management. Full training is provided. We would love to hear from you, even if you do not fit into this category.

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