



Bomere & the XI Towns Federation

Governor Spotlight

July 2023



A message from Keith Lister Chair of Governors

Greetings from your Board of Governors and a particularly warm welcome to all of our new pupils who will be joining us in September and to new parents, many of whom I had the pleasure of meeting at our recent New Starter's Parent's Evenings.

It has been a real pleasure being able offer a full range of extra curricular activities to all of our pupils again this year including clubs, inter school sports, cultural and outward bound residential visits. We believe that these are a very important part of our children's educational experience and hopefully will form part of their many happy memories of primary school.

We have also been very fortunate and grateful to continue to be supported by two very active and resourceful Friends groups at our schools, whose hard work and determination, together with the generosity of local sponsors has enabled us to replace the trim trails at both of our schools in the last 2 years, which represents an investment of over £60,000. Judging by the popularity of the trails at breaks and lunchtime, it has already proved to be a very good investment!

As Governors, one of our primary roles is setting the strategic direction and as you will already know, we are in consultation to become part of a new Multi Academy Trust which is being set up by the Hereford and Lichfield Dioceses, giving us the unique opportunity to be fully involved right from the start.

Being a School Governor is a very rewarding experience; none more so than supporting a school Ofsted Inspection early in the Autumn Term at Bomere Heath. We couldn't have been more proud of our staff and pupils, who were able to give our inspectors a really detailed and accurate impression of our school across the 2 days, culminating in a well deserved 'Good' rating!

Keith Lister, Chair of Governors

Members of the Governing Body

Keith Lister	Chair of Governors (Co-opted)
James Reynolds	Vice Chair (Parent Governor)
Julie Ball	Executive Headteacher
Sallie Roberts	Deputy Headteacher (Co-opted)
Katie Farmer	Staff Governor
Vacancy	Local Authority Governor
Lucinda Burns	Foundation Governor
Karen Longland	Foundation Governor
Hannah Lins	Foundation Governor
Emma Quigley	Foundation Governor
Rachel Hudson	Parent Governor
Tony Simpson	Co-opted Governor
Richard Kinley	Co-opted Governor
Vacancy	Co-opted Governor
Suzanne Jones	Co-opted Governor
Patsi Park	Co-opted Governor
Hannah Reynolds	Associate Governor
Vacancy	Co-opted Governor

Update

This year we have enjoyed a year of relative stability with one retirement and one resignation to report—Barbara Gallimore decided to retire at the end of her term as Foundation Governor but we are delighted that Barbara is continuing to volunteer in school and thank her for all of her support over the last 4 years; unfortunately Tamarin Bibow has resigned and we thank her for her service over the last year and in particular for her generous donation of labour for the Ruyton trim trail site. We have most recently been delighted to welcome Mrs Karen Longland to our Governing Body as our new Foundation Governor and you can 'meet' her 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

New Governor Profiles

My name is **Karen Longland** and I have recently been appointed as a Foundation Governor. On leaving university I joined the family business, before retraining in Early Years education and working in both state and independent schools before retiring at the end of 2020.

I have lived in Ruyton XI Towns for 23 years and am an active member of the Church, currently helping to run a Mother and Toddler group. I consider it an honour to be part of the school community, striving to provide the best standards in education and wellbeing for all our children.



Academisation

We have actively considered becoming part of a multi-academy trust (MAT) in the last few years and are now in consultation to join a MAT currently being set up by the Hereford and Lichfield Dioceses. As this new MAT is being set up by the Diocese, we are confident that our values are compatible and that we will be able to maintain our current inclusive, caring primary school ethos in both of our schools. Formal consultations with parents will be held in the Autumn Term and if the consultations conclude positively, the new MAT aims to be up and running by January 2024.

Training

Staff and Governors alike are provided with a wide variety of regular training sessions to support continuing professional development and school improvement activities. New Governors receive an Induction and New Governor Training including Safeguarding and Prevent as well as any topics relevant to their Link roles and/or committee membership eg Finance.

Recently, our meetings and training have been mostly carried out face to face again with at least the option of being on line, now that most of us have a level of proficiency in Microsoft Teams.

We have also benefited from a SEN course ably run by Suzanne, with the objective of ensuring that as Governors we understand the support and resources needed to allow all of pupils to reach their full potential.

Class Structure

Bomere Heath will remain at 5 classes and Ruyton will remain at 4 classes plus nursery in September based on current roll numbers.

Home School Agreement

We encourage parents to engage with school via our Home School Agreement which is available on our website.

School Improvements

Having replaced the trim trail at Bomere Heath last year, we were particularly delighted to be able to install a similar replacement Ruyton, thanks to the generosity of the Friends, parents and local businesses

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 James (Vice Chair). Full training is provided and you can make a real difference. We would love to hear from you..

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

www.bomereheath.shropshire.sch.uk or www.ruytonschool.org.uk