

MEET THE GOVERNORS

KATIE CORRIGAN

I am an Associate Governor and Deputy Headteacher here at Woolenwick Junior School.

I have recently relocated from Manchester where I was the Deputy Headteacher of a 2 form entry Primary school. This school successfully improved from requiring special measures to being good in all areas in under 18 months.

I have a passion for teaching and learning and am already enjoying being part of the lovely Woolenwick team. I am excited for the future and will strive to make our school the best it can possibly be.



JONATHAN ELLAM

My name is Jonathan Ellam and I am a co-opted governor, I joined the governing body in November 2018.

Both my daughters attended the school and thoroughly enjoyed their time here and have many happy memories.

I was a governor at the school when my daughters attended and am delighted to be returning to the governing body and helping the school as it continues on its journey to outstanding.

I am Chair of Governors at the Thomas Alleyne Academy and also a director of Hart Schools Trust and have spent 18 years in total as a school governor, I hope some of this experience will help in my role at Woolenwick Junior School.

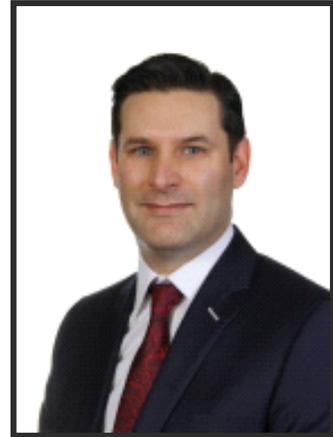


GARY HAWKINS, HEADTEACHER (GOVERNOR STATUS)

I am proud to say that I have been Headteacher at Woolenwick Junior School since October 2017. I have worked in four different counties and in my last school worked with children from Nursery to Year 6, in a school with 940 children. I live in the local area, have four children, and a very good understanding of the local community. I am committed to improving outcomes locally and nationally as I am a Specialist Leader of Education, working in conjunction with the Chiltern Teaching School Alliance and the National College for Teaching and Leadership.

In the time since I have been Headteacher we have experienced rapid improvement in order to secure the best outcomes for our children. I lead a team of amazing school staff and work with wonderful Governors who all share the same vision- we value each and every child and know that each individual does and can make a positive contribution to the world.

When visitors come to Woolenwick Junior School they comment upon the children's love of learning, their manners and are always impressed with how responsible and confident they are. It is a school which is truly at the heart of the community.



JAMES FRENCH

My name is James French and I am delighted to be a Governor at Woolenwick Junior School. I have lived in Stevenage all of my life but have also been lucky enough to travel the world as well!

I was a teacher for 12 years at a local secondary school but now I work for a company who train young people to potentially become teachers themselves.

My main passion is PE and you may see me from time to time running some sports clubs at the school. It gives me great satisfaction to see the smiles on pupils faces as they take part in sport. Keeping active is fun!

I am a friendly and approachable person and would welcome the opportunity to talk to parents and pupils about their views on the school.



MARK HESSEY

I am a co-opted Governor with one child enrolled at this school. This role gives me a better understanding of the education our children receive and how the school functions on a daily basis. It also enables me to monitor what is being done to try and improve the school, and therefore to help the children improve.

I live and work within Stevenage, where I have been a research scientist for the last 23 years. I have a strong analytical background and hope to use this strength to help the school determine where we need to focus efforts to improve.

I have a high confidence that the school is making great efforts to improve and am determined to help. If anyone has any thoughts, ideas or concerns then please feel free to approach me.



KAREN JONES

I am a nominated and elected staff member of the governing board. I was born and raised in London. I attended primary and secondary schools in Barnet, North London. I have been working in the school for 4 years. I have taught years 3,5 and 6 in our school. In the past, however, I have taught all year groups from Nursery upwards having been a teacher for 26 years.

Becoming a teacher is something I have always wanted to do and would 'practice being a teacher' in my bedroom as a child! As a result, I am an experienced communicator, who teaches with warmth, care for my pupils as individuals and enthusiasm. It is important to me that I maintain positive relationships with my pupils and their families and often have pupils come back to let me know how they are getting on.



JO MARSHALL

I am a nominated and elected staff member of the governing board. I was born and raised in Stevenage. Also, I attended primary and secondary schools in Stevenage. I have been working in the school for 10 years, which means, that I have experienced many changes and my role has changed considerably over that time.

As a parent myself, I am very aware of parents' needs for clear feedback and for me to be open and available for parents to approach. I always try meet with parents in my roles of being both a class teacher and SENCo, and I endeavor to always follow up on issues that we have discussed.

Five years ago, I went from being a part-time class teacher to being a full time member of staff; joining the Senior Leadership team, taking on the role of Assistant Head-teacher, followed by my appointment as SENCo, whilst maintaining a teaching commitment.

I came to teaching later in my career, having worked in business for some years, and then having travelled overseas extensively in my twenties. Overseas I had worked with children, so that shaped my determination to go into the teaching profession. I feel I have a natural affinity with children and am always keen to develop a relationship based on mutual respect and trust. I am always mindful of trying to make teaching and learning engaging and enjoyable, and being a teacher allows me to be creative and have fun with the children.



CARLY MCDOWELL

I am a nominated and elected parent governor. I have lived in Stevenage for most of my life and attended primary and secondary schools in Stevenage. I have three children- two of which currently attend Woolenwick Junior School.

I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to travel after university before settling into my career within Service Logistics, working for a variety of companies, ranging from IT to the Wine Industry.

I have worked locally for Fujitsu for the past 6 years. As a company they have actively encouraged my role as a Governor and support days out. Through working within an IT based company I am very aware of the need to encourage girls into STEM subjects and am very pleased with the current links we have established with companies such as Glaxo who help to deliver amazing science workshops for the school.

As a parent-governor I would welcome the opportunity to talk to parents and pupils about their views on the school.



MARGARET NOTLEY

Currently awaiting content.

ALAN SMITH

I am a recently appointed co-opted Governor living in Kimpton with a career background of 45 years as a qualified engineer in the Automobile Industry specialising in vehicle and occupant safety. I have chaired a number of national and international standards committees and am conversant with a wide range of health and safety issues.

My granddaughter attended the infant and junior schools and to express my appreciation of their teaching I offered myself as a volunteer reader in 2009 mainly in Y3. I have seen a lot of the school from the inside and am pleased that recent improvements have led to an enhanced environment for both teachers and pupils.

I am keen to continue to assist where I can to secure the future prosperity of the school both in the classroom and on the sports field. My other interests have centered around a deep involvement in tennis, hockey and more latterly golf.



MAGGIE TAMCKEN

I am delighted to have recently joined the Governing body of Woolenwick as a co-opted Governor. My background is in Human Resources Management and I specialise in employment law, recruitment and employee engagement. I have worked in leadership roles across a broad range of sectors for many years and have recently taken a leap of faith and started up my own HR consultancy. I'm pleased to have a little more flexibility to be able to commit to such a key role at a great school.

Although I don't have any career experience in education, I believe many of the skills that are gained within commerce are very transferable to other sectors. I hope my knowledge and experience will add some value to the excellent progress that has already been made by Gary Hawkins and his team.

I live locally (in Little Wymondley) and have a Grandson in Year 4 and a Granddaughter coming up through the ranks of Woolenwick Infant School. Therefore, I have a real and vested interest in supporting the school's journey towards "Outstanding". You will usually see me in the playground at 'home time' on Tuesdays (Nanny's pick-up day!) so please do feel free to chat.



CATHERINE TIERNEY

I am the recently appointed Chair of Governors and have one child enrolled at this school and two more coming up in September.

I have close links with the local community as I know many of the children and their parents. I attended the school when I was younger and have lived in Stevenage all my life.

I am a teacher myself and teach at two other local primary schools. This helps me to fulfill my governor role in setting the schools strategic direction as well helping in monitoring and evaluating the schools progress.

Being a governor at Woolenwick Juniors is a truly rewarding role as I feel I am making a real difference to the lives of the children in the school.



SHIRLEY YOUNG

I joined the Governing Body as an Associate Governor in February 2019. I have lived in Stevenage most of my life and am local to the Woolenwick school area. Both of my daughters attended Woolenwick Infant and Junior schools, and I volunteered at the school on a regular basis during this time. I accompanied school trips, helped out with the Netball club and often came in to help with reading. Additionally, I ran a local 'Rainbow' group for several years aimed at 5-7 year olds so I am familiar with working with children.

I've worked in the IT industry for many years, and am currently a Network Implementation Manager at Fujitsu, responsible for delivering network projects to time and cost, mitigating risk and identifying service improvement initiatives.

I'm looking forward to contributing to the Governing Body and working with the team to help maintain and enhance the quality and reputation of the school.

