

Mrs Cathy Shergold ~ Chair of Governor's



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. (Nelson Mandela). I believe passionately that education is the key to a successful future for all our children. It is especially important to instil a love of learning in the primary years and this is why I accepted an invitation some years ago to join the Governing Body at St Andrew's. I benefitted first had from an excellent state education, which set me up for university, followed by a career in journalism and research and development in an international corporate real estate. For the past 16 years, I have run my own IT business, providing solutions and support to private individuals and small businesses. But aside from all that - and most importantly - I'm also a mother with an unshakeable belief that all children have the right to an education in a safe and supportive environment, delivered by inspiring and committed teachers, whose sole motivation is to tap in to the innate inquisitiveness of every child, so that learning is a joyful and positive lifelong experience.

Mrs Jane Lushington ~ Vice Chair of Governor's



Our school motto proclaims we should be the best we can be. This applies at several levels - to the school - to provide the best learning environment for our children, and to the children encouraging them to become the best they can be. I believe we are a team - governors, parents and teachers working together to achieve this aim, to launch the children into the next stage with the tools they need for success. I too benefited from an education that enabled me to become the first from my family to go to university, and have a career in systems and change management in multinational corporations, then to run my own business. Every child should have the same opportunities.

Mr Andy Lea ~ Local Authority Governor



Education is one of the most important aspects of a child's life. They should be able to enjoy their learning journey and socialization with both other children and adults alike. My daughter started at St Andrew's half way through her primary school journey. I was pleasantly surprised with the warm welcome and help we received from the children and staff from St Andrew's and my daughter's learning curve was accelerated due to the support received. I decided to become a governor to help ensure that these qualities are kept at the school during these difficult times. I have previously been a governor at another school and currently work in a cut-throat industry where safety can never be compromised over price. I train people in risk assessment, threats and how to stop incidents and accidents. I possess many other skills, all of which are invaluable in my role. I'm proud of St Andrew's achievements and will continue to work with the management and staff to try to ensure that the school has a successful future.

Mrs Iona Parker ~ DBG Foundation



I was formerly a solicitor and am now a Councilor on Braintree District Council representing Stour Valley North Ward. I live in Little Yeldham and have 3 teenage children. I have been a Governor at St Andrew's for 7 years. My children have been right the way through school and I now know the importance of a good foundation for future learning. Good literacy and numeracy skills are essential, as is knowledge and understanding of the world around us. I wanted to become a Governor to help provide the children in our local area with the best start in life.

Mrs Kelly O’Riordan ~ Parent Governor



I am a mum of twin girls who attend St Andrew's and I have been a Parent Governor for over three years. Before my girls started school, we decided as a family to move out of London, as we felt that our girls deserved the best Education possible. We feel very lucky that our girls have been given the best starting point within this small village school. I have worked within secondary school for several years so I understand the importance of getting it right at primary school level first to set the foundations educationally, emotionally and socially so children can develop and grow into well rounded adults. I am proud to be part of the great Governing Body and I will continue to work with the other governors and staff members to ensure this school continues to be a fantastic place for all who attends.

Mrs Louise Gurney ~ Parent Governor



My name is Louise Gurney and I am proud to be a parent Governor at St Andrews CE Primary School. My husband and I have a child who in Mulberry Tree class (Reception) so at the beginning of their St Andrew’s journey. We live in Great Yeldham, so have another vested interest in our local primary school being successful (as well as me having been deputy for five years here). I have over 20 years’ experience in Primary education - which is my passion as I believe this provides the basis of our children’s futures. I hope to bring my enthusiasm and experience to this role. I am proud to be Governor at such a fantastic school - not only great academically, but great for our son’s social and emotional wellbeing, which is just as important.

Miss Sarah Houghton ~ Teacher



Teachers have always played an integral role in my life, and I've been fortunate to have strong bonds with teachers who believed in me, made demands of me, and lit up my hunger for learning. When I become a teacher myself, after graduating with a BAEd in Early Years Education with a specialism in Art and Design my colleagues provided mentorship, taught me the value of collaboration, and showed me the fierce dedication the teaching profession demands. One of the quickest lessons I learned on my first day in a classroom is that teaching is not just a job. Rather it's a calling, driven by the belief that all children deserve to reach their full potential. That's why I continue to invest my time, energy and love to do what's best for each of the children in my class. I have been teaching at St Andrew's School for 10 years and have been the staff governor for 6 of those years. I believe this school is filled with a passion and a drive to ensure every child can achieve their best. Providing strong foundations from an early age enables our pupils to grow into accomplished and confident young adults equipped with the necessary skills needed to further their studies and make a positive impact on their futures.

Mrs Glynis Haigh ~ Co-operated Governor



Mrs Debbie Hilliard ~ Clerk to the Governing Body

