

Governor Newsletter and profile 2017—2018



Federation of Fountains Earth and St Cuthbert's CE Primary Schools

Learning and Growing Together



Governing Board Meetings

Autumn Term

Full Governing Board Meetings 02/10/2017 & 04/12/2017

Resources Committee Meeting 13/11/2017

Spring Term

Full Governing Board Meetings 29/01/2018 & 26/03/2018

Resources Committee Meeting 19/03/2018

Summer Term

Full Governing Board Meetings 14/05/2018 & 09/07/2018 (AGM)

Resources Committee Meeting 18/06/2018

The Governing Board for the Federation is made up of the following types of governors:

Parents: 2 Governors

Diocese/Foundation: 2 Governors

Co-Opted: 6 Governors (1 vacancy)

Local Authority: 1 Governor

Staff: 1 Governor plus Headteacher

Each term of office is for 4 years. The Governing Board appoints a Chair and a Vice Chair at the AGM in July for a 1 year term of office.

The Governing Board has a Governance Manager who clerks all meetings, manages any issues and helps with any enquires. If you have any enquires regarding the Governing Board you can contact Ang Lumley via email:

admin@st-cuthberts.n-yorks.sch.uk

or telephone: 01423 711407 (school hours)

Resources committee

G Lewis—Chair

R Light

D Rogers

L Brammah

A Hattan

Lead Governors

S Leeming—Safeguarding

J Hardcastle—SEN/PP

D Rogers—H & S

S Leeming—School Development Fountains Earth

L Greenwood—School Development St Cuthbert's and

Achievement Unlocked

Statutory committees that meet if they are required

Complaints

L Greenwood

D Rogers

G Lewis

Complaints Appeals

S Leeming

A Hattan

D Hall

Richard Light—Co opted—Chair

I am currently the Chair of the Governing Board and am now in my third 4 year term of office. My son Isaac was a pupil at St Cuthbert's and now attends Nidderdale High School. I also chair the Nidderdale Education Group which was set up to ensure sustainability of education in Nidderdale. I was born and brought up in Pateley Bridge attending Bridgehouse Gate Junior School and the High School, which was the building that is now our own St Cuthbert's School. I am the fourth generation of 'Lights' living in Pateley Bridge and my Great Grandfather was the police sergeant during the building of Scar and Angram Reservoirs! I have played cricket and football for the town since my early teens and I have been the club chairman for over 16 years. I coach cricket and tag rugby for the school in the spring and summer. My professional career is in construction which means I can offer help and expertise with building issues in school.

Lynette Brammah—Headteacher

Prior to becoming a governor at Fountains Earth and St Cuthbert's in September 2016 I have been a governor in several schools. My governor role is wide and varied requiring me to report on all aspects of school from academic standards to financial accountability. I enjoy the strategic element of governance—exploring possibilities, looking into the future and planning for continual improvement. I have lived and worked in Yorkshire all my life and have fond memories of visiting Pateley Bridge as a child, going to Bewerley Park as a Newly Qualified Teacher with my Year 6 class and more recently passing through on various walks. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would become the Headteacher of the schools that serve this wonderful community.

Daniel Rogers—Co opted—Vice Chair

I am originally from Horsforth and after living and working overseas with my family for a number of years, we moved back to Yorkshire in 2015. I have 3 children, 1 at Nidderdale High School and 2 at St Cuthbert's. My working background is in the oil industry as a project and business manager and I have sat on the board of an industry trade association and served the same as Chairman. I am currently Vice Chair of Governors and sit on the Resources Committee. I hope my skills are useful to this excellent school which welcomed my children so readily.

Sharon Leeming – Local Authority

I started my role as Local Authority Governor in September 2014 at Fountains Earth and am now privileged to hold the same position for the federated governing board of our two wonderful schools. I work in secondary education in Harrogate and have 14 years teaching experience, I try to apply this experience to my role as governor for the benefit of the children. I live locally and when I am not teaching, I am helping out on the family farm with my husband. We have two children, Spencer and Harris, now both attending Fountains Earth. In addition to full Governing Board meetings, I am the Lead Governor for School Development at Fountains Earth and responsible for Safeguarding at both schools. I have also previously held the position of Vice Chair for Fountains Earth. I have a keen interest in exercise and fitness, I swim, run and cycle regularly and enjoy the beautiful scenery of Nidderdale.

Jen Blunstone—Co opted

I have lived in Nidderdale all my life. I attended St Cuthbert's myself as a youngster, when my Year 5/6 classroom was where the after school club now resides. My husband and I have three children who have grown up in the dale, attending Nidderdale High before moving on to further education in Harrogate schools. I have worked in the Learning Support Centre at Nidderdale High for nearly ten years now, and I also teach English. I was excited to become the SENCo at St Cuthbert's and Fountains Earth in September 2017. It has been fun to work with younger students and to meet the other staff and governors who have been so incredibly welcoming. I look forward to continuing the learning curve and to doing what I can to support the schools.

Lucy Greenwood—Parent

I have previously held the position of Chair and Vice Chair of Governors for St Cuthbert's and I have loved working in both capacities. I have served as a parent governor since my daughter Eve started Reception seven years ago and I continue in that role for the federation. Eve has now moved on in to Year 7 at St Aidan's in Harrogate and Seb is currently in Year 4 (and baby Jemima is ready to follow in their footsteps!), I am kept busy at home, but I also work as an Assistant Headteacher in a nearby secondary school and during my career have taught in four different schools. This hopefully means I have a breadth of educational experience and I try to apply this to my role in governance for the benefit of all our children .

Andrew Hattan—Co opted

I am a first generation tenant farmer of 10 years on the Middlesmoor Estate and have been involved in agriculture all my working life. I was born in Nigeria, brought up in Leeds and then North Yorkshire. I attended secondary schools in Catterick Garrison and Richmond and hold science-based degrees from the Universities of Edinburgh and Reading. I enjoyed playing cricket and rugby union in my youth and currently coach mini rugby at Wensleydale RUFC. I am married to Sally and we have 2 children; Sam who currently attends Fountains Earth (Yr4) and Rachael who attended Fountains Earth from Reception through to Year 6 and now attends Nidderdale High School (Yr 8). I feel extremely privileged, that we live and work in such a unique and beautiful place and that our children have had the opportunity to attend such good schools. I am therefore very grateful for the opportunity to join the federated governing board and hope that the skills that I have gleaned over my career to date, can be put to good use in the development, support and achievement of the federation aims and objectives.

Julia Hardcastle—Co-opted

I have been a member of the Governing Board at St Cuthbert's since 1999. Firstly as a staff governor and now as a co-opted governor for the federation. I have served on the Finance and Premises committee at St Cuthbert's and I am currently the lead governor for SEND and Pupil Premium. I work at St Cuthbert's as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, I also work alongside Stephen Price delivering the music to all our KS2 children in the federation. On a more personal note I am a mum of three children all of whom attended St Cuthbert's before moving on to Nidderdale High School. I am very proud to be working in the federation staff team as well as being part of the federated governing board.

Laura Franklin—Parent

I am delighted to join the Governing Board as a newly appointed Parent Governor. We recently moved to Nidderdale and Joshua joined Reception at Fountains Earth in September, with his younger sister Abigail desperate to start too! We have been so impressed with the school and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to serve the federation of schools in this way. I have a background in international law and have worked in academia, local authority and the charity sector. Whilst the children have been small, I have been kept busy working with children and students in our church, and I am enjoying becoming involved in the community here now too. I hope this breadth of experience will benefit the role of governor, and I look forward to getting to know you all better over the coming months!

Father Darryl Hall—Foundation Ex Officio

I am the youngest of six children. I was born in Bangor where my father served at RAF Valley and I was baptized in the nose cone of a Spitfire at Biggin Hill. Once he retired I was raised in Northallerton. I worked as a manager for Calverts Carpets for 18 years and have also been a children's entertainer. My skill as a ventriloquist is useful when Gary the Gorilla makes an appearance in Collective Worship! I trained to be a priest in Durham between 2007 and 2009, served my 4 year curacy at Knaresborough, and then took up post as the Vicar of Upper Nidderdale in the summer of 2013. I have a wife and two sons, one of whom attends Nidderdale High School. We like going out as a family and visiting local places of interest. I have many of the skills required of a school governor and am now developing the experience where the training will be put to good use.

Attendance at FGB meetings at both schools for the school year 2016—2017 was:

Autumn Term meetings—91.3%
Spring Term meetings—95.6%
Summer Term meetings—90%

Gavin Lewis—Foundation

I have been a governor at St Cuthbert's for several years, firstly as a Parent Governor elected in 2000. In my time on the Governing Board I have been Chair for several terms of office and I was on the Finance and Premises Committee and am now the Chair of the Resources. I live locally and my work base is Harrogate. I am actively involved at St Cuthbert's Church and the PCC. My two children have attended St Cuthbert's before moving on to St Aidan's and University. My years spent on the Governing Body have been rewarding and enjoyable and I am looking forward to continuing my work with the federated governing body.

Rosemary Holmes—Staff

I am Senior Teacher at St Cuthbert's School and class teacher of Years 5 and 6. For the last seven years I have been a staff governor serving on the Personnel and Curriculum Committee and the governor responsible for reporting on Science. I have responsibility for analysing and tracking pupil assessment data for St Cuthbert's and present termly reports to the Governing Board. I am a member of the federation leadership team and look forward to supporting both schools in the federation.

Ang Lumley—Business & Governance Manager

I have lived in Nidderdale since 1987 and worked at St Cuthbert's since 2000 as Business and Governance Manager. I now work across the federation managing the budgets, buildings and other areas to ensure the smooth function of our wonderful schools. In my governance role I enjoy working with the governing board helping governors to fulfil their duties as strategic managers. I am a member of the federation leadership team and look forward to contributing to the success of the federation. I feel privileged to live and work in Nidderdale, and both myself and my husband actively support the local community. We have a daughter who attended St Cuthbert's and Nidderdale High School and has continued to live and work near London after graduating from university. When I am not working I am usually running or cycling around the dale, or enjoying an exercise class at the sports centre!

Throughout the school year 2016—2017 the governors have attended training on the following issues:

Chairing the Governing Board training—S Leeming
Governor Monitoring training—L Greenwood
Governor School Improvement Network meetings—several governors
Clerks Forum meetings—A Lumley

Governing Board

The purpose of the Governing Board is to carry out all statutory duties considering safeguarding and equalities when undertaking all functions.

They review, monitor and evaluate the curriculum planning and delivery. Contribute to the Self-evaluation form, School Improvement Plan and targets for school improvement.

They develop and review policies identified within the school's policy review programme.

Ensure that the requirements of children with special needs are met, as laid out in the Code of Practice, and receive termly reports from the Headteacher/SENCO and an annual report from the SEN governor (where appointed).

It is the duty of the Governing Board to:

- ◆ Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of leadership and management
- ◆ Monitor and evaluate the impact of quality of teaching on rates of pupil progress and standards of achievement
- ◆ Monitor and evaluate rates of progress and standards of achievement by pupils, including any underachieving groups
- ◆ Monitor and evaluate the impact of continuing professional development on improving staff performance
- ◆ Set priorities for improvement, and monitor and evaluate the impact of improvement plans which relate to the committee's area of operation.
- ◆ Monitor and evaluate provision for all groups of vulnerable children (e.g. looked after children) and ensure all their needs have been identified and addressed, and to evaluate their progress and achievement.
- ◆ Regularly review and develop the Assessment Policy and to ensure that the policy is operating effectively.
- ◆ Consider recommendations from external reviews of the school (e.g. Ofsted or local school improvement advisers), agree actions as a result of reviews and evaluate regularly the implementation of the plan.
- ◆ ensure that all children have equal opportunities.
- ◆ Advise the resources committee on the relative funding priorities necessary to deliver the curriculum.
- ◆ Monitor the school's publicity, public presentation and relationships with the wider community.
- ◆ Identify and celebrate pupil achievements
- ◆ Oversee arrangements for educational visits, including the appointment of a named co-ordinator.
- ◆ Ensure all statutory requirements for reporting and publishing information are met and the school website content is fully compliant and presented in an accessible way.

Resources Committee

The purpose of this committee is to ensure sound management of the school's financial situation by monitoring and evaluating the school's financial performance. The governors will agree budgets for the priorities of the School Development Plan (or post-OFSTED Inspection Action Plan). They will ensure that the school has a Budget Management Policy and that it is annually reviewed. Financial benchmarking is undertaken on an annual basis using the nationally and locally available comparative statistics. The budget is monitored for all income and expenditure and a start and forecast budget are approved. Priorities for use of the Devolved Capital Funding are considered. The standard, cost and impact of services purchased from all outside providers, including North Yorkshire County Council, are considered to ensure full compliance with the principles of 'Best Value'. Governors attend specific financial training on NYCC procedures.

Governors provide support and guidance for the Business Manager and Headteacher on all matters relating to the school premises. The governor responsible for Health and Safety inspects the school premises termly and reports any issues to the Governing Board. The Governing Board considers the reports and recommendations of the Health and Safety Advisor; authorise such action as necessary to meet the Health and Safety obligations. The findings of premises inspections and audits are reported to Business Manager and will liaise with her to ensure that appropriate remedial action is taken. Governors attend specific premises training on NYCC procedures.

The governors of this committee will approve the Revised Budget in Autumn and the Start Budget in the Spring, which is submitted to NYCC. A review of the Budget Management Policy and the Schools Financial Value Standard takes place annually.