

Governors pen portraits:



Andrew Gibson – Chair of Governors

I have been a governor at Byley since my eldest child joined the school in 1998, initially as a Parent Governor but now as a Community Governor. I am pleased to say that all three of my children attended the school.

I am proud to serve as Chair of Governors and hope my experience adds to the strong leadership and governance team the school has. I work in Manchester as a solicitor specialising in employment and education law, and bring what I can from that role to help in the governance of the school. I am also currently Chair of Governors at Middlewich High School and consider the strong links the school has with the local High School to be a real strength.

Malcolm Such – Vice Chair of Governors

My name is Malcolm Such and I work for Greater Manchester police as a Detective Constable. I have three daughters; Lily and Fleur are at Byley and Daisy now attends Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School.

This is my second term as a governor for Byley Primary School. I am the elected Deputy Chair of Governors as well as the Safeguarding Governor.

I am keen to support the school in any way that I can so that the children can get the best possible start in life, in a safe and caring learning environment.

John Beecroft – Co-opted Governor

I moved to Byley in 2000 and feel passionately about our small village, being the current Parish Chairman. We regard the heart of the village as the School, St John's Church, the Village Hall and more recently Lowes Farm Shop.

An Engineering Degree and Certificate in Finance & Accountancy helped me develop my career to running a \$100m multinational Food Engineering division of an Italian company.

I try to bring some of this experience to the various aspects of being a governor of Byley Primary School. As governor with responsibility for Mathematics and English I am particularly interested in securing and developing the basic skills in these subjects across and through the wider curriculum.

Developing and maintaining our traditional small country school is our most important objective.

Debbie Brain – LA Governor

Before becoming the LA Governor, I was a Parent Governor here at Byley Primary School for over 15 years, beginning as my first child joined the school. I am currently the Business Manager and Safeguarding Co-Ordinator at a local charitable Pre-School and, as such, have a great interest in Early Years Provision and all pastoral elements of school life. Our community based School here at Byley prides itself on a caring, supportive and inclusive ethos that I am extremely proud to be a part of.

Colleen Evans – Staff Governor

I have worked with children and staff at Byley for almost 3 years now as Bursar. My job affords a variety of responsibilities, one of which is to serve on the Finance committee of the Board of Governors. I enjoy being part of a happy and hard-working team of professionals who work together.

With two children of my own at high school now, I fully appreciate the value of a good primary school education and I support the school, children, staff and governors to the best of my abilities to further develop this school community.

Christine Hankey – Co-opted Governor

For the last three years I have been a Co-opted Community Governor; my curriculum area is P.E. My connection with Byley School has been longstanding; firstly, as a pupil in the fifties and then as a parent from the early eighties, until my youngest daughter left the school in 1996. During this time served as a Parent Governor for eight years. I have seen many changes over all these years and today's children have a tremendous opportunity to learn in an exciting and stimulating environment. I endeavour to offer my support to the school and staff not only as an ex PE teacher but as an active member of the local community.

Kay Walsh – Head Teacher

I qualified as a teacher in 1999, having taken time out to bring up my children and study for a degree with the Open University. During my teaching career, I have worked in Cheshire Schools and was fortunate to spend 2 years on secondment to the Mathematics Team of consultants, offering support and training to schools throughout the county. Byley is my first Headship and one which I feel privileged to hold. We develop and extend a warm, family welcome to every child here. I care that all children should strive to achieve their best, with the support and challenge of committed teaching staff along with the support from parents and families. I believe that children need a variety of stimuli to develop their knowledge and understanding, and look to use all possible opportunities, within the classroom and beyond to provide this.

Vicky Whiston – Parent Governor

I am delighted to join the governing body at Byley Primary School as a Parent Governor. Our eldest daughter, Clair, has recently joined the school in Reception. I work for Cheshire East Council teaching at a larger than average primary school in Crewe. My professional responsibilities include EYFS Leader, SENDCO and Looked After Children (LAC) Designated Teacher. I believe in nurturing environments for children to learn as individuals, I am passionate about the early years. I look forward to contributing to the governing body at Byley to help to ensure our lovely school continues to grow and move forward.