



# Robert Piggott Junior and Infant Schools Governors

2025-2026

Updated March 2026

## Benedicte Perowne

Co-opted Governor

Chair of the Full Governing Body.

Re, Geography & History Governor

Member of:

- Finance & Infrastructure Committee
- Buildings Strategy Committee



Benedicte became a co-opted governor in 2019. She lives in Wargrave and has one son at the Infant School and one son at the Junior School.

As a lawyer who regularly advises large global and national banks and other financial organisations on their governance structures and their obligations as a result of being regulated entities. Benedicte brings extensive experience to the governing board.

She often works with her clients to draft and interpret policies and procedures and adherence to the same and she enjoys using her skillset to support the school team and the governing board in a number of areas.

Benedicte is also an active member of the local community and is passionate about ensuring our thriving schools remain at the centre of our lively and engaged local community.

Benedicte's term is from 11.11.19- 13.7.29

## David Jeary

Co-opted Governor

Vice-Chair of the Governors

Maths Governor

Chair of the Finance & Infrastructure  
Committee

Member of:

- Curriculum and Standards Committee
- Buildings Strategy Committee



David was appointed to the Governing Board as a Parent Governor in 2014 and is now a Co-Opted Governor. He has two children who have both attended the Infant and Junior Schools and are now in secondary education.

Having spent 6 years as a Parent Governor he now has an appreciation of the pressures that the whole school team works under and thus the support that can be given by the Governing Board to assist in ensuring the children's education is at the highest possible standards.

David's term is from 4.7.18 – 13.7.29

## Owen Rees

Co-opted Governor

Safeguarding Governor

MFL and Music Governor



Member of:

- Curriculum and Standards Committee
- Personnel Committee
- Buildings Strategy Committee

Owen joined the board as a Co-opted Governor in March 2017 and was Chair of Governors until April 2025. Owen is the Director for Governance for West London College.

He is a Chartered Governance Professional and has wide experience in governance, including as a governor of another school.

His younger son attends the Infant School.

Owen's term is from 20.3.17 – 13.7.29

## Sally Reason

Co-opted Governor

SEN, Inclusion and PP

Governor

English Governor



Member of:

- Curriculum and Standards Committee

Sally became a Co-opted Governor in October 2019.

She has been a teacher for over 20 years with a background of teaching in secondary schools and FE colleges with a focus on special needs. Sally is currently working as a SENCo at Heathfield School. Sally oversees the Curriculum and Standards committee and has responsibility for SEND and Pupil Premium.

Sally has been involved with the school for many years as chair of the PTA whilst her daughter attended and then as part of the Governor body.

Sally's term is from 11.11.19 – 13.7.29

## Catherine Hall

Parent Governor



Catherine joined the board in 2025 as a co-opted parent governor. She lives in Wargrave and has one child at the school and another at Waingels, with additional special educational needs. This has given her a parent view of SEND and how important it is to get it right in schools.

Catherine is a leadership development consultant working with boards of directors to increase performance and to get the best out of their teams. Starting her career in Human Resources and running a consultancy has given her a good understanding of business across the board.

Catherine's term is from 17.3.25- 16.3.29

## Mike Smith

Parent Governor



DT and Art Governor  
Chair of the Personnel  
Committee

Member of:

- Curriculum and Standards
- Pay panel

Mike was appointed to the Governing Board as a Parent Governor in July 2018. He has two children in the schools.

Mike has many years of business experience with a significant number of those years in global human resources. Mike has partnered with a charity in South Africa, Living Legends who support over 8,000 children in schools around Stellenbosch.

Mike is looking applying his knowledge and skills to ensure our children have the best possible education and experience.

Mike's term is from 4.7.18 – 10.7.26

## Elizabeth Sutcliffe

Foundation Governor

Maths Governor

Member of:

- Personnel Committee
- Pay Panel
- Performance Management panel



Liz has been a Foundation Governor since 2002 and teaches Classics in Reading.

Elizabeth became a Governor when her children were at the school and she continues to support the school by bringing her teaching knowledge to a number of Committees.

Liz's term is from 6.2.19 – 5.2.27

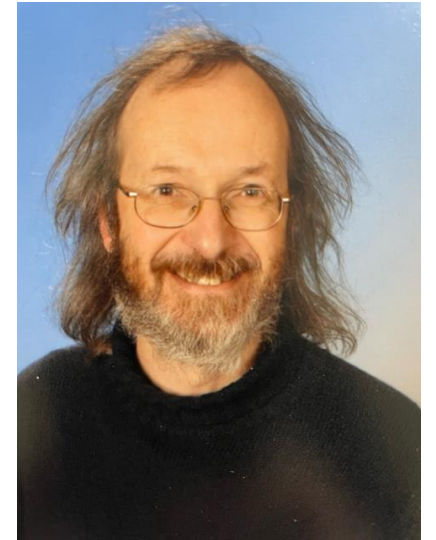
## David Wyatt

Foundation Governor

RE, Geography and History  
Governor

Member of:

- Personnel Committee
- Finance and Infrastructure Committee
- Performance Management panel
- Pay Panel



David has been a Foundation Governor for many years. His focus is on Personnel, Finance and the schools' Christian ethos. He is the Link Governor for Data Protection. David is also Vice-Chair of Governors at Crazies Hill Primary School and is also a Trustee of the Agape Multi Academy Trust.

David's term is from 3.12.14 – 2.12.26

## Ali Sinfield

Co-Opted Governor

Member of the Curriculum and Standards Committee



Ali has been a member of the Governing Board for two terms as the Staff Governor. Ali is now a Co-Opted Governor, invited to be on the Board due to her unique and extensive skills and expertise.

Ali is the Assistant Headteacher and Inclusion Lead across both schools. She Leads our school's inclusion strategy for SEND and Pupil Premium, with a passion for ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed.

Additionally, Ali oversees the curriculum to ensure it is engaging, inclusive, and aligned with the highest standards of education. She is committed to continuous improvement and to making a positive impact on both teaching and learning outcomes across the school.

Ali's term is from 6.10.25 – 5.10.29

## Vanessa O'Byrne

Executive Head Teacher

Member of:

- Personnel Committee
- Finance and Infrastructure Committee
- Buildings Strategy Committee
- Curriculum and Standards Committee



Vanessa became the Executive Head in September 2023. She recognises the importance of working with the whole school community to provide a broad, stimulating and value-based education for our pupils.

An important part of her role will be aiding communication between the Schools and Governing Board. With a focus on the School Development plan, Vanessa will provide regular data and progress reports to the Full Governing Body.

Vanessa's interests lie in curriculum development, providing a range of platforms for all children to shine as well as the moral and social education of pupils through our values of 'Grace, Courage & Friendship'.

# Reverend David Chislett

Foundation Governor



David is the vicar of Wargrave and Knowl Hill and became a governor in October 2025. He is part of the team that leads collective worship at Robert Piggott CE Infant and Junior School.

David is also on the board of governors of The Piggott School and a trustee of USPG who are partners in global mission.

In his business career, David held senior financial positions with several private equity backed technology companies.

David's term is from 22.10.25-21.10.29

# Sarah Pontet

Staff Governor



- Sarah was elected as the Staff Governor, joining the Governing Board in November 2025. Sarah has been a teacher for 30 years, the past 15 at Robert Piggott Junior School. She is Assistant Head and as well as teaching Year 5 and 6, takes the lead in the schools on Safeguarding, Behaviour and Attendance.
- Sarah is committed to supporting the strategic development of our schools and ensuring that decisions reflect the realities of teaching and learning. She is passionate about creating an inclusive environment where every pupil can flourish and ensures that the curriculum meets all the children's needs.

Sarah's term is from 12.11.25 – 11.11.29