

Members of our Governing Body

There are twelve Governors in total. Six are appointed by the Archbishop - these are called Foundation Governors. Three Governors are elected, two by the parents and one by the staff and one is appointed by the Local Authority. One co-opted governor and one associate.

Foundation Governors

Mr Louis Walmsley - Chair of Governors (Chair of finance and Buildings, Headteacher performance management and staffing)

Mrs Jacqueline Davies (chair of Childcare, Curriculum and standards, Headteacher performance management and appeals)

Mr Simon Godwin (Catholic life and Pastoral care and finance and buildings)

Mrs Madeline Gorman (chair of Curriculum and standards, catholic life)

Mrs Anne Thompson (finance and Buildings, childcare and Safeguarding governor)

Dr Richard Henshaw

Elected Parent Governors

Mr Ben Adams - Vice Chair of Governors (Chair of Catholic life, curriculum and standards)

Miss Hayley Lawlor (Curriculum and standards committee, childcare)

Elected Staff Governor

Mrs Liz Woolfenden (Catholic life and Pastoral care, curriculum and standards committee)

Nominated Local Authority Governor

Mr Carl Pegg

Headteacher

Mrs Claire Faulkner (all committees)

Co-opted Governor

Mrs Karen McGowan (Curriculum and standards and finance and buildings)

Associate Governor

Mr Simon Alexander (school Finance officer) (Finance and Buildings, childcare)

Clerk to the Governors

Mr Peter Davies

Louis Walmsley (Chair of Governors) Foundation governor: appointed;1987

I am a professional engineer having worked in a range of manufacturing and transportation industries for over forty years and have specialised in operational safety for the last twenty years.

Since moving to Lichfield in 1986 my family has had five children attending SS Peter & Paul's school.

I have been a Governor at SS Peter & Paul for over 30 years being Vice Chair of the Governing Body and Chair of the Finance & Premises Committee for most of that time.

Throughout this time I have always been impressed by the dedication and hard work of all the staff, the support and commitment of parents and the positive response of the pupils. It is a very happy school, setting the highest standards and I am proud to be associated with it. This has been a consistent feature of the school which we, as governors, strive to nurture.

I am committed to helping the school continually evolve and improve to benefit the children in our care

Ben Adams (Vice Chair of Governors) Parent governor: appointed April 2018 (wife: Mrs L Adams is a P/T in the school)

I feel very privileged to be a governor at SS Peter and Paul RC school, I am proud to be part of the school community. I am a parent of two children in the school and am a teacher by profession. I have worked in various schools as both a pastoral and curriculum leader. My current role is Lead Practitioner for Mathematics across the Mercian Trust which takes me to a number of schools offering support and helping to drive improvements.

I have a strong personal commitment to seeing students of all ages, including my own; enjoy, develop and excel in every aspect of their school journey. I live locally and am a practicing Catholic, attending masses in Lichfield. I love to see the students in our school community develop academically, socially and spiritually and leave school with a readiness to cope with the challenges that they will face in their next steps.

Jacqueline Davies - Foundation Governor: appointed December 1996

I have had four children who have attended SS Peter & Paul's school over a period of 22 years so I have seen the school change and develop over the years. I was initially attracted to the school because of the family atmosphere; everyone knew each child as an individual, cared for them and wanted to ensure their success academically and personally. This has been a consistent feature of the school which we, as governors, strive to nurture.

I currently chair the Childcare committee and am also involved in performance management.

I am committed to helping the school continually evolve and improve to benefit the children in our care.

Simon Godwin - Foundation Governor: appointed November 2015

I have lived in Lichfield for the last seventeen years. I have two children. My eldest is now in Year 11, having previously attended SS Peter and Paul from nursery all the way through to Year 6. My youngest is currently in Year 6 having attended the school from nursery. I have been employed at Stafford Grammar School for many years and am currently Head of Religious Studies. I also teach ICT. Previous to this I taught RE at Blessed William Howard, Stafford and Cardinal Griffin, Cannock. My wife and I have been very pleased with the Catholic education both our children have received at SS Peter and Paul and the commitment of all the staff. It is a privilege to support the school as a governor.

Carl Pegg -Local Authority governor: appointed December 2019

I was delighted to be appointed as a local authority governor at SS Peter and Paul Catholic School in early 2020. My career to date has seen me work in various public service settings including further education, local government and central government. I am married and as my two children are former pupils of the school, I realise how important it is for pupils to receive the very highest standards of education possible in their early school years and beyond. I have a strong personal commitment to improving the standards of education for all young people and to lifelong learning generally. As a local resident for ten years, I am honoured to be able to play a part in ensuring the young children in our community receive the very best educational experience at SS Peter and Paul Catholic School

Madeline Gorman - Foundation Governor: Appointed July 2018

Originally from Manchester I came to the Midlands in 1969 to train as a Primary School teacher at Newman College of Education in Birmingham. I came to live in Lichfield in 1976 and so began a very long and happy association with St Peter and St Paul's School. My three children attended the school during the 1980's and I taught at the school from 1986 until my retirement in 2008. During that time I taught in year 3 and 4 and was very privileged over a number of years to prepare children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Although now retired from teaching I have continued to maintain links with the school as a volunteer. Since 2018 I have served on the governing body as a foundation governor and sit on the Catholic Life Committee and Curriculum and Standards Committee.

Anne Thompson – Foundation Governor: Appointed February 2019

Coming originally from Northern Ireland, I have lived in England since 1987. After qualifying as a teacher (secondary school) of English and teaching for few years, I changed career to social work, ultimately specialising in children's social work. I have now retired apart from being a member of a fostering panel which approves and reviews foster carers. I have 3 adult sons and can still remember the demands of being a full-time working mother. I have been a volunteer in school since November 2017. I listen to children reading and always look forward to my morning in school. I consider it a privilege to support the children. I was delighted to accept appointment as a foundation governor in January 2019. I believe strongly in the power to transform lives that education offers and the community that is our Catholic school.

Dr Richard Henshaw – Foundation governor – appointed October 2020

I grew up in Bristol and attended a Catholic primary and grammar school (St. Brendan's College). In 1965 I went up to Leeds University to read Medicine and graduated in 1970. After hospital jobs in England and marrying Judith we went out to Southern Africa and served in mission hospitals for thirteen years in total, before returning to Britain in 1992 with four children. I joined the Spire's Practice locally and was a partner for 22 years, finally retiring from medicine in 2017.

In Lichfield I have been active in Churches Together and am also a Trustee of Mary Slater and Kendall and Wall charities.

Our four children are all grown up with families of their own and are far-flung (two in Australia, one in France and one in Sussex!) The internet has been such a blessing during the Covid pandemic in maintaining contact with them all.

My pastimes are medicine (it's addictive), politics and history, railways and canals, and a desire for Christian unity. St. Peter and Paul's School is a real beacon of Christian service in Lichfield, and it's a pleasure and privilege to be a governor.

Hayley Lawlor – Parent governor :Appointed February 2019

Karen McGowan - Associate governor : appointed November 2019 (daughter: Mrs Cribbett is a F/T TA in the school)

I first became a Governor at Ss P&P in 1999, when 2 of my 4 children were still at the school. I resigned from the Governing Body in 2016 and very recently returned in June 2019 - this school has a way of drawing us all back!

Having qualified as a nurse in 1986 I have had a very diverse career in the NHS, which I believe has provided me with a breadth of skills that I use as a Governor to support the role of critical friend. As a nursing practitioner I worked as a Night Sister covering St Michaels, Hammerwich Hospital and the Victoria and then latterly, also as an Emergency Nurse Practitioner in the Minor Injuries Unit at the Vic. I came out of uniform in 2003, and have since held the following roles in our local NHS organisations; Head of Training and Development, Business Manager, Planning and Organisational Development Lead, Head of Governance, and Deputy Chief Nurse and Deputy Director of Quality. In 2015, I took up a post as Deputy Chief Nurse in Southern Derbyshire. I became a very proud grandmother in 2018 and so returned to Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, initially to oversee Continuing Healthcare and now as Head of Nursing, Quality and Patient Safety, working compressed hours so I could spend one day a week with my grandchild.

I have held a number of Board positions in my NHS role; on the South Staffordshire Care Workforce Partnership (SSCWP) and Clinical Commissioning Group representing the Chief Nurse, and also as a Trustee on the Friends2Friends Learning Disability Group in Lichfield and a Foundation Governor at St Francis Of Assisi Catholic Academy for a number of years.

I have always had a keen interest in learning, working as an NVQ Assessor at the former Sutton College and then completing an MSc and PgDip once I turned 40! I am currently a published author and collaborator with Birmingham City University on studies involving healthcare.

My faith is very important to me having been raised as a Catholic and so ensured my children had a catholic secondary education and the very best primary education at SS Peter and Paul's school, for which I am very grateful and very proud.

Simon Alexander - co-opted governor : Appointed February 2018

Simon is the school's finance officer and sits on the governing body as advisor on finance related to the schools budget.

How to Contact the Governing Body

Governors can be contacted via the Clerk to the Governors, c/o Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Primary School, Dimbles Lane, Lichfield, WS13 7NH.