



Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School Governing Body Information



What do we do?

The purpose of the governing body is to provide the best possible education for their pupils by:

- Setting the school's values, and strategic aims, agreeing plans and policies and making creative use of resources.
- Monitoring and evaluating performance, acting as a critical friend to the Headteacher to support and challenge him in managing the school.
- Ensuring that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, to the local community, to those who fund and maintain it, as well as to the staff it employs.

How do we do what we do?

The full Governing Body meets every half term to discuss the School Improvement Plan, the Headteacher's Report, to review policies and accept decisions taken in any sub-committee meetings.

Governors also visit the school to monitor progress against the School Improvement Plan.

Copies of the minutes of our meetings are available in the school office.



Who We Are



Mr Daniel Lucey, Headteacher

I joined Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School in 2014 as a class teacher. I thoroughly enjoyed teaching the children of Great Clifton for a number of years. In September 2021 I was asked by the governing body to become the Headteacher of Derwent Vale Primary and Nursery School. Working in unison with the governors to set the strategic direction of the school is one of my key responsibilities. I am very fortunate to work with a very committed, supportive and proactive governing body.



Mr Grant O'Townson, Staff Governor

I was born in Cumbria & qualified as a primary school teacher in 2007. I have worked at Hensingham Primary School & Northside Primary School where I was Deputy Head & Headteacher. I was awarded a fellowship from the Chartered College of Teaching in 2021, following on from my NPQH award and Specialist Leader of Education certificate for the primary curriculum in 2012. I was delighted to be offered the job as SLT/Year 5/6 teacher at Derwent Vale & I feel very proud to be associated with the school. I'm very proud to be on the governing body at Derwent Vale; it is a real privilege and I am determined to do all I can to help the school in continuing to provide an excellent standard of education.



Mrs Steff Fleming, Chair of Governors

I have been a co-opted governor since 2020 and am really enjoying the challenge. I have 2 children at Derwent Vale and I wanted to become more involved in the school and the community. The role is very rewarding and I am pleased to be part of the team who work hard to keep this school a great asset to our village.



Mrs Laura Graham, Vice Chair of Governors

I was approached by another governor to ask if I'd consider taking on the role. I have really enjoyed the challenge, applying my skills in a different environment and the chance to positively impact the school.



Mrs Sally King, Co-opted Governor

I live in the village & my son and nephews attend Derwent Vale School as pupils. I was approached by the school to ask if I would consider taking on the role as I already attended the school as a volunteer reader and enjoyed the school environment. I took on the role as Governor to find out a bit more about the school and to be involved in making sure the school remains a key part of the village. I enjoy coming into school and seeing my family in a different environment, it is great seeing them smiling in school, as well as at home.

Who We Are



Miss Gayle Roach, Local Authority Governor

My son attends Derwent Vale and with being relatively new to the village I was keen to be involved with school life as much as possible and learn more about the school itself. I also think it is important to contribute in the community in any way that you can and teach our children the benefits of doing so.



Mrs Caitlin Bragg, Parent Governor

I have been a governor for a couple of years now and it is one of the most rewarding things to do. Being part of a community being able to watch and help the children flourish is incredibly special.



Mrs Hayley Ward, Parent Governor

My daughter started at Derwent Vale in 2022 and as a secondary Science Teacher I was interested in supporting the school in a governor role. I'm really enjoying seeing how much the children enjoy their learning and how much work and effort the school staff put into making sure the children get the most out of their time in school.



Mrs Charlotte Bampton, Co-opted Governor

I have lived in the village for eight years and have a son at the school. I am excited to get more involved in the life of this wonderful school and help it to play its part in bringing up our children and developing their role in our community.



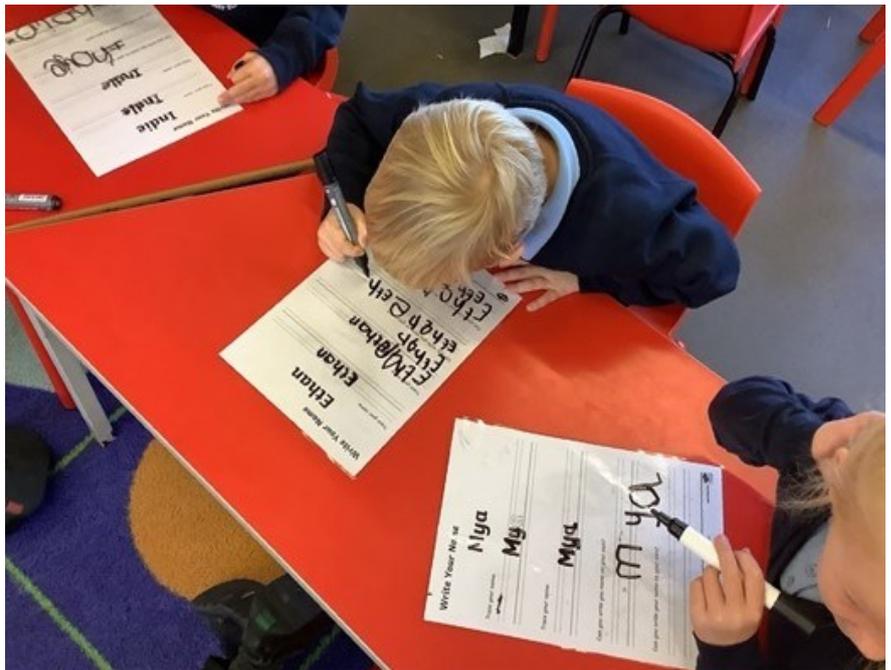
Mrs Anna Dobinson, Co-opted Governor

I joined the school fundraising team and became a school governor shortly after my eldest daughter started the school in September 2023. I live locally and have another daughter who will be starting at Derwent Vale in 2024. I am keen to be involved in organising events and activities to benefit both the school and the children. I have been very impressed with Derwent Vale as a parent and I am proud to be part of the Governing Body.

Why not join us?

No formal qualifications, skills or requirements are needed!

If you have enthusiasm and can commit to a meeting for a couple of hours each term, you care about improving children's educational attainment and want to contribute to the local community, please contact us for more information on how to apply to join our Governing Body



Did you know?

It is appreciated that Governors are generally working people and cannot simply just take time off work for monitoring visits, events and courses unless this is supported by their employer. Many companies do have a policy of granting members of staff a reasonable amount of paid leave each year to undertake a role as school Governor.

Contact us

The Governors are very conscious that they should be accessible to parents.

If you have any concerns or would like the Governors to raise any issues for discussions at meetings, please feel free to approach us at any time.

All Governors who are also parents of children at the school are happy for you to speak to us at any time you see us at school.

Alternatively, you can email us at admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk

