Meet the Governors – Biographies.

Frances Duck

I have lived in Hanslope for over 30 years and been associated with the school for nearly as many. Both my children attended the school and gained much from the friendly, caring and supportive learning experience they enjoyed there. I joined the governing board as I wanted to continue to support such a good school and have been privileged to work alongside an amazing group of fellow governors and committed members of staff for so many years.

In my professional life, I am a teacher of Special Educational Needs in a primary setting and have a particular interest in ensuring full accessibility of the curriculum to all the children in the school. I also hold a strong belief that maintaining good mental and physical health plays a key role in children being ready to learn and achieving goals and have experience in tutoring and running specific courses to assist children with strategies for dealing with worry and anxiety.

My family members share a wide range of interests including enjoying most types of sport, travelling, growing things (we have an allotment in the village) and making all manner of things - chiefly out of wood.

David Fox

I have been associated with Hanslope school since my wife started teaching here 15 years ago. During that time, I have witnessed the professionalism and dedication of the teaching staff, and heard about the positive impact on the children the team have had. Having worked locally in Hanslope, for 3 years, and after military career in which I did not put down roots, I wanted to take this opportunity, through my association, to give something back by joining the governors at Hanslope.

In my professional life I served in the Royal Air Force for 23 years, before leaving to forge a second career in cyber security. In both careers I have led and managed multidisciplinary teams in the UK and overseas and in many and varied situations. As a result, I bring a broad portfolio of management and leadership skills that I would like to use to help Hanslope Primary School maintain and improve the high standards it has set.

Jon Garner

Having grown up in Hanslope, lived here all my life, and attended the school myself what seems like an eternity ago, I have strong connections to the village and the school. I love the village and can’t think of living or bringing my children up anywhere else (beside a chateau in France maybe). My mum also taught at the school for many years. With my son now in year 3 and my daughter in year 1, I decided that I would like to give back and offer my skillset to assist where possible with the strategic direction of the school.

My day job is as the Head of IT for a charity and local heritage attraction, which I joined just before the dreaded pandemic kicked in at the start of 2020. Prior to this I spent the majority of my career working in Retail IT, working alongside as well as directly for a number of High Street names (Past and Present).

I have a strong commercial understanding and have been exposed to everything from operations and building projects to the strategic direction and finances of an organisation. I have run teams of people, often across multiple countries or locations and from diverse backgrounds. I pride myself in my attention to detail. I’m a problem solver at heart, and my background in IT has given me a very analytical mindset based on fact and figures.

In my current role as Head of IT, I am responsible for the strategic vision of the IT and Digital side of the business and also oversee the operational side of the IT function which includes overseeing the program of IT projects and all supplier contracts and negotiations along with the budget. I am also the lead for Data Protection and Information Security within the organisation and ensuring we meet the required accreditations each year.

In my spare time I like to spend time with the family and am a keen sportsperson when time commitments allow. A lifelong hockey player, rugby supporter and in recent years my focus moved to training for and participating in triathlon. Why be good at one sport when you can be bad at three! I am also a volunteer coach for the Hanslope Hornets Football team and Olney Rugby Club which means I can give back to the clubs that my son loves playing for.

I’m really enjoying working with the wider team of Governors, gaining greater exposure to, and inputting into, the direction and long term success of the school.

Lisa Lawrence

I have been a teacher at Hanslope for over 20 years and have recently become the Deputy Head. I enjoy every day here at Hanslope and think that Hanslope is a fantastic school where staff are passionate about educating children to the highest standard and all pupils are treated as individuals.

Throughout my career I have worked within Key Stage One. My current role is working in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Working in the Early Years Foundation Stage allows me to get to know all the children and parents as they start Hanslope and watch them grow throughout the school until they leave as well-rounded individuals for Secondary School.

I believe that our Governing Body work hard to promote our values and ethos and maintain our extremely high standards.

When I am not at work I enjoy spending time with my family.

Harriet Lovegood

From a young age, I have always looked up to my teachers, seeing them not only as authority figures but as people who offer kindness, caring, support, and guidance. I have always wanted to teach and have spent the last seven years doing so. I have been at Hanslope Primary for three years now and currently teach in Year Six.

As a teacher governor, I believe that it is important to be the voice between the governing body and members of staff to ensure they have the resources and support required to do their job. I hope to use my experience as a teacher to support where necessary.

In my spare time, I love spending time with my friends and family. I love visiting new places and using this time to see as much of the world as I can.

Beth Metcalf

I am the Chair of Governors atHanslope Primary school, with a background in Children’s Social Care, Early years and Education.  I am a Foster Carer for children in Milton Keynes and wanted to support the fantastic work teachers do for our young people in Milton Keynes. I am currently Director of Membership Services at the Open University Students Association, and so I see everyday the importance and value to education.  My main passions in work and life is to remove barriers to inclusion and playing rugby.  I love a range of team sports and enjoy seeing children engage in sports and hobbies for enjoyment, wellbeing and making friends too!

Nigel Stacey

Our family connection with Hanslope School started over thirty years ago when our two daughters attended the school. My first involvement was with Friends of Hanslope School, the highlight of which was when as chairman we had a farming themed fun day which was opened by a cast member from the Archers! I went onto to become a Parent Governor and my wife Sarah was a founder of the 3 2 6 club. I am currently fortunate enough to be chair of the governing board, which gives me the privilege of seeing the school function at a strategic level, as well as contact with staff, parents and of most importantly the pupils. The school is dynamic and aspirational and I feel honoured  to be part of this and what we try to achieve.