Governor Pen Portraits 2026/ 27

Lizzy Barker Staff Governor	Hi, my name is Lizzy Barker. Having been a teacher for over 10 years, including the last four here at Botley, I have developed a strong commitment to the school and its community. I was also an LSA for 6 years prior to becoming a teacher, so these roles have allowed me to gain different perspectives. I am looking forward to contributing to the team and gaining a broader insight into the whole school, supporting its continued development and success. I think Botley is a fantastic school and I am excited to be joining the governing team.
Kevin Barton Local Authority Governor Vice-Chair of Governors	My name is Kevin Barton and I have been a governor for a number of years as the Local Education Authorities nominated representative following 12 years on Botley Parish Council. I have taken on the role of Vice- Chair of Governors for this academic year. This is a fascinating role that gives a deep insight into the working of the school and provides the focus for governors as they support the school and its senior management team in making Botley Primary School the fantastic learning environment we want for our children. I have an education and training background as well as a number of years of senior management experience in business services. I try to use to provide constructive criticism and advice where appropriate. More importantly I am the Mr Barton who has been reading to Reception and Year 1 children for the last 8 years - if they asked for a Harmonica for Christmas, it is my fault!
Emily Braithwaite Parent Governor	Hello! I'm Emily and I have recently taken on the role of Parent Governor here at Botley. With three children in the school, I have now been an active parent at Botley for six years with a further six years to go so you're bound to see my face on the school gate. I am

	really keen to play my part in making our amazing school the best it can possibly be. With two of my three children also on the SEND register with additional needs I understand the importance of tailored and inclusive educational approaches that cater to the unique needs and abilities of every child so that they can thrive. I bring not only a vested interest but a good understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities our school faces. Along with my husband I own my own business which works in small business consultancy and marketing. Much of my professional skillset involves strategy, planning and project management and I am keen to utilise them throughout my time as School Governor.
Julia Cornford-Hooke	Hello, my name is Julia. I am a parent of a child at Botley Primary School, and a co-opted governor with the responsibility of safeguarding and attendance. I am delighted to be able to be part of the Governing body here at Botley, building positive relationships in the school community and supporting the school. My professional background is in safeguarding, developing and implementing support for children that prevents harm and enables children to thrive. I am looking forward to supporting SLT and helping to ensure Botley continue to effectively fulfil their role in keeping children safe, providing a environment where children can be happy.
Philippa Green Co-opted Governor	Hi, I am Philippa and I was lucky enough to spend a quarter of my 28 years in primary education as a teacher at Botley C of E Primary School. I taught across both Key Stages and held roles on the school's Senior Leadership team. I am currently employed as an educational researcher where I specialise in mathematical assessment as the teaching and learning of mathematics is something I have

	always been very enthusiastic about. I was always very proud to say I was a teacher at Botley as I knew its pupils not only received a high-quality education but were given the foundations they needed to be successful in the future. I am delighted to be able to be part of the Botley community again and help the staff and pupils achieve their goals.
Shaun Hurworth Co-opted Governor	I have lived locally and worked in Botley for over 15 years and am proud to be part of such a vibrant local community. My son attends Botley Primary School, and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to contribute more directly to the school's continued success as a governor. Professionally, I have a background in finance, budgeting, marketing and sales for a local manufacturing business, and I hope to use this experience to support the school's strategic development and effective use of resources. I'm passionate about helping children reach their potential and about maintaining the strong sense of community that makes Botley School such a special place to learn and grow.
Revd Gregg Mensingh Foundation Governor	As Vicar, I am your ex-offico Foundation Governor and have been since 2013.
Becs Nichols Parent Governor Chair of Governors	Hi! I've been a Botley parent for 7 years; my daughter attends and my son recently moved on to secondary school. I've been a Governor since 2021. I enjoy being able to give back to the school by helping support the senior leadership team to ensure all our children enjoy the best opportunities whilst at Botley. I run my own consultancy, working with leadership teams on strategic direction, commercial planning and marketing strategy. I'm able to bring skills from this into my Governor role to challenge the SLT to support our school's development. Outside work, when not taxiing children, I enjoy running and am an FA coach

	working in girls' football. I've also recently gained my UEFA C qualification and I sit on the Hampshire FA Inclusion Advisory Group.
Henry Penfold Co-opted Governor	'Hi, I'm Henry. I have a son here at the school and work as a primary school teacher specialising in Computing. I currently support the teaching of computing and digital infrastructure across 2 primary schools, helping children develop their digital skills. I am keen to contribute to the school's digital growth, benefiting both children and the wider school community
Daniel Piddington Foundation Governor	Hi, I'm Daniel. I have a son here at the school and am an active member of All Saints Church in Botley. I hope I will be able to further enhance the links between our school and our local parish church in my role as a Foundation Governor. As a lawyer by profession, I also hope that I will be able to offer support to the board of governors in complying with the necessary statutory and regulatory requirements.
Lauren Rees Parent Governor	Hello, I'm Lauren and I am so grateful to have been voted in as parent governor at Botley Primary School. I have a child already in the school, and one soon to be starting. I am committed to supporting a learning environment that is nurturing for its staff and inspiring for its pupils. I truly believe that wellbeing at a school is paramount, and that it is a core part of strategic planning. I have been a music teacher for 15 years, with experience as SLT and as a department leader. I am a firm advocate of the power of the arts, and I hope to bring a focus on creative enrichment for our young people.
Jackie Wilcock Foundation Governor	Hi, I am Jackie Wilcock. I have worked for Botley School as a LSA and Early Years Assistant for 18 years. Also, I have worked for the afterschool club as a manager for many years too. I started at Botley when my children were at the school and have never really left. I have been on various committees within the school including Fobs and Splash. I am

	very committed to the school and seeing that all children receive the best education possible. I retired in December 2022 and was so pleased to be asked to be a Governor of the school enabling me to serve the school once more in a different capacity. I have always been impressed with the school's ability to instil Christian values of respect, determination and stewardship giving the children a good solid basis for the future. I hope my experience working with the children across all areas of the school will help me to be a useful member of the Governing Board
Jo Wilkinson Co-opted Governor	My name is Jo Wilkinson and I have recently joined the governing body. My professional background is rooted in investment banking in London and I bring over 20 years of financial expertise to my role as a financial school governor. After building a successful career in the City, I moved to the area which is nearby to where I grew up to be closer to my family and start my own. I'm now a parent of three children, one of whom attends Botley school. I am passionate about contributing to the local community and supporting the school in providing the best possible start in life for its pupils. I currently work part-time in corporate banking in Southampton, which allows me to stay professionally engaged while being present for my young family. My financial skills, including budgeting, risk management, and strategic planning, are well-suited to the role of financial governor. I am committed to helping ensure that the school's resources are managed effectively and transparently, so that every child has the opportunity to thrive.