

GOVERNOR PEN PORTRAITS

Simon Simmons



I am currently in my 8th year as Headteacher at Barns Green Primary School. I have been a Governor for approximately 20 years at a number of schools across Sussex. I am as passionate about providing an excellent education today as I was when I started in teaching and feel very privileged to be working at Barns Green Primary.

Claire Mitchell (Chair of Governors)



I am married with 3 children aged 9 and twins of 7, all of whom attend Barns Green Primary School. I moved to Barns Green 6 years ago and have been a member of the Governing Body since 2013, becoming Chair in September 2015.

I became a Governor as I care about the education that our children receive and was keen to help all children get the most out of their time at Barns Green Primary School. I also wanted to strengthen the link between the school and the local community.

I am the UK Finance Director of a Global Division of a large aerospace and defence company and have experience in Finance, Operations and Strategy.

Peter Bird (Co-opted Governor)



I have lived in Barns Green since 2001 during which time all four of my children attended the school. I volunteer as a Governor at Barns Green Primary School as I am a passionate believer in high quality education and the opportunities it presents to young local people.

I work in marketing and training for a large oil company and therefore bring along many business perspectives to the Governing Body.

I am also a Parent Governor at the Weald, Billingshurst

Janet Chambers (Local Authority Governor)



I am married with 2 children aged 12 and 8, with my youngest still at Barns Green Primary. I have had links to the village of Barns Green for 20 years, and have lived here for the last 10 years

I became a School Governor because I wanted get more involved with the children's education & to help support the school in ensuring the children reach their full potential.

I work full-time in Horsham as a CRM Systems Administrator.

Alyson Heath (Co-opted Governor)



I am married with two grown up children. I have lived in Pulborough for 38 years. My eldest has cerebral palsy so as a family we have been involved in the world of disability for many years. My youngest went to The Weald secondary school. I have worked as a teacher and headteacher in West Sussex all my career. I retired as headteacher of St Mary's CE (Aided) Primary school in August 2015. Until my retirement on sat on the Diocesan Board of

Education and was an inspector of Church schools. I am also a governor of another school in Horsham.

Penny Pavey (Co-opted Governor)



I moved to West Sussex thirty years ago and currently live in Thakeham. I am married with two grown-up children. I retired in 2015 having worked for over thirty-five years as a teacher in both Kent and West Sussex. I have spent most of my career working in primary schools with a particular focus on Special Educational Needs and Inclusion. My aim as a Governor is to support everyone working at Barns Green Primary School, thereby enabling all children to achieve their very best.

Ross Dye (Co-opted Governor)



I am a Parent Governor with a nine-year-old son in the school. I have lived in and around Barns Green for nearly twenty years.

I joined the governing body in 2013, and in 2015 I became Chair of the Finance and Premises Committee. I am particularly interested in ensuring that the school provides the best possible learning environment for our children.

I am employed by a large IT services company as an IT Service Architect and have worked in IT for nearly thirty years.

Jody Baker (Co-opted Governor)



I am currently a parent of two children at the school, and also the chair of the Barns Green Playgroup and the Village Trust. I enjoy being involved in these very important parts of our community and to give my time, support and energy to ensuring that these remain at the forefront of their abilities.

I work as the Commercial Director for a global aviation and medical assistance business, so if you need help overseas it's probably us that will look after you! There are many similarities in these worlds - and with Barns Green Primary School planning, operational excellence, budgeting, and most specifically children's outcomes - the centre of everything that embodies what our school is about.

We have a third daughter so my involvement may well stretch long into the future. We have been living here for 9 years now, and it's a wonderful place to be - and one which I hope our family will be a part of for many years to come.

Alex Nicholson (Parent Governor)



I am father to 2 children at Barns Green Primary School, and have lived in the village for the last 10 years.

I have volunteered to be parental governor of the school to do what I can to ensure all the children at the School have the best possible start in life: This relates to the education provided as well as an environment that is caring, supportive, helpful and nurturing.

I work as an auditor in the Not-for-Profit sector, at the top NFP auditor, and with that comes knowledge and experience of auditing schools and other charitable bodies, which will assist in my role as governor.

Rob Hammond (Parent Governor)



I have lived in Barns Green since 2015 and have one child currently attending Barns Green Primary and another who currently attends the village playgroup.

I became a parent governor as I am passionate about helping to build the best possible environment for our children to learn and develop in a complex and ever-changing world.

I have worked in internet marketing for over a decade, across media agencies and music and news publishers, and currently work for the UK's largest national and regional news publisher.

Tracey Newbold (Staff Governor)



I have taught for many years and am as passionate about teaching and learning as the day I started. As Deputy at Barns Green for a little over a year now I believe I bring both experience and expertise. I have taught within a wide variety of contexts over the years and was even lucky enough to live and teach in New Zealand.

Within West Sussex Education authority I have held a number of roles, helping to develop English provision within the authority and being a statutory writing moderator. I believe strongly that education should be creative and engaging and that as professionals those working within school should have high expectations of both themselves and the children.

I am proud to be Deputy of Barns Green, this is a very special community and I am thoroughly enjoying being part of it.