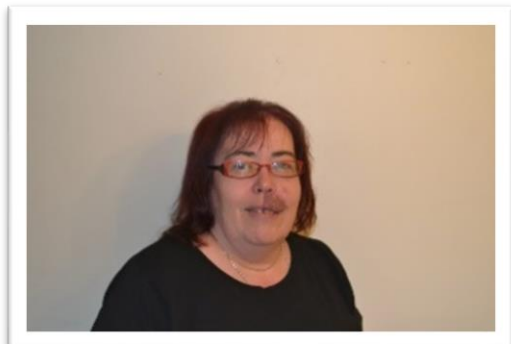


## Meet Our Governors 2023/24

The following people make up our Governing Body along with Mrs Janet Potter (Headteacher) and Mrs Susan Brooke-Mawson (Staff Governor)



### **Mrs Becki Beaumont**

I am Becki Beaumont, Chair of the Governing body. I was first elected in February 2014 and I am a co-opted Governor. I have 12 years' experience of being a school governor and I serve on another Kirklees school's Governing body.

I visit school regularly – I normally attend class assemblies, school services in church and parents' evening.

I am strongly committed to seeing our Governing body work hard as a team, to support our Headteacher and all staff in achieving the best possible outcomes for our children. I encourage our governing body to be both supportive of the school and appropriately challenging and to be fully committed to staff development and pupil outcomes.

I believe every child deserves the best education possible.



### **Father Jonathan Bish**

I am priest in charge of four Church of England parishes in Batley, including St Paul's Hanging Heaton. I was brought up in the United States, and after a degree in law from the University of Oxford, I trained as a priest in Cambridge. I have been in ministry for ten years in different parts of West Yorkshire, and arrived in Batley in January 2023. I have served as a governor at four other schools at different times, including three years as chair of governors of Rooks Nest Academy in Wakefield, and currently also serve on the governing bodies of Batley Parish Primary Academy and Bywell CofE Junior School. I have particular interests in history, music and theology, and recently completed a Masters which explored the relationship between medieval understandings of creation and contemporary theologies of disability. As foundation governor, I am responsible for the link between school and the local church, and for supporting school in delivering collective worship and RE, but I have an interest in all aspects of education. In my free time I sing with Wakefield Cathedral choir and also enjoy walking and going to concerts. You may spot me on my bicycle, as I mostly get around Batley on two wheels!



**Mrs Elizabeth Exley**

I am a co-opted governor, formerly a community governor. My interests include 20 years as a reading partner at the school and as a member of the Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Chaplaincy Team. I am a deacon at Dewsbury Baptist Church and have been secretary of Churches Together in Dewsbury for 22 years. I run a drop in and advice centre CARE Dewsbury for people on the margins of society.

I am passionate about fairness in society and hope to make a difference and help to ensure our children leave school as well rounded individuals who will achieve their full potential in life.



**Mrs Lindsey Towler**

I have been a co-opted governor at Hanging Heaton since September 2019 and sit as chair on the Standards and Effectiveness Committee. My background is in Primary Education - I was a teacher for over 35 years and am now retired. I am a member and steward at Tingley Methodist Church and this plays a big part in my life. I am married with three grown up children, a son-in-law, two grandchildren and a dog! Since taking early retirement, I have more time to dedicate myself to other things. The Governing Body plays a huge role in the life of a successful school and I love being part of the team at Hanging Heaton and being an involved and supportive governor. My Governor focus is History, Geography and Music as well as The Early Years Curriculum. I support the school in any way I can and have enjoyed going on trips, visiting the school to talk to subject leaders and children and supporting in the delivery of Key Stage 2 SATS.



**Mrs Kathryn Cutts**

I am Kathryn and I am a co-opted member. Until just over a year ago, I was teaching year 6 in a Church of England school which is similar in size and has the same values as Hanging Heaton. Over my 26 years of teaching, I have taught Y1 to Y6 and I was responsible for the wellbeing of children and staff, Religious Education and Collective Worship. These areas are a real passion of mine.

I ended my teaching career in order to support my husband, who is the local Methodist minister, and to become involved in the life of his 3 churches: Hanging Heaton, Tingley and West Ardsley. I have recently set up a community café in one of the churches which provides a space where people can just be. I am also involved in a Youth Group and Messy Church.

The whole school family is important to me. I am looking forward to working together as a team to nurture each child to become the best they can be, helping them to believe in themselves in the context of a school which lives out Christian values. I am volunteering in school a morning a week so hopefully I will get to

know the school, children and staff well. I am looking forward to getting to know you all and supporting the school.



**Mr Paul Ockwell**

Hi, I am Paul Ockwell and this is my first opportunity as a Community Governor.

I have over 30 years of experience at Yorkshire Water, currently as an IT Business Liaison Manager. I am looking forward to applying my skills in a volunteering capacity, making a contribution to the local community.

Finally and most importantly, I am a parent myself. Grace is currently at Woodkirk High School and George at Hill Top Academy.

I look forward to helping the school in any way I can.



**Mrs Mellisa Dean**

I am your new parent governor here at Hanging Heaton. I am Vinnie's mum; Vinnie is now in Year 4.

I am an experienced teacher of both primary and secondary students; my current role is Programme Leader for KS3 English. I believe in a well-rounded education. I believe in the joy of learning and I am passionate about everyone getting a fair opportunity.

This year I began working alongside the council to develop our local woodland at Caulms Wood and have successfully created an outdoor classroom for our children to access. I firmly believe in wild play and learning whilst being outside.

I hope my role of governor brings positive developments to the school and the community. I am hard working and dedicated to making real change.



**Mr James Henshaw**

Hi I am a parent Governor for the school and this is my first opportunity at the role, I sit on the resources committee for the school.

I currently work in the environmental services sector for a large private company and I'm looking forward to assisting the school and pupils with my experience.

I have 2 children at Hanging Heaton so it's my passion to ensure that the school continues to thrive from an education and community perspective.

I hope to be involved in pushing the school forward as it continues to provide pupils the best possible experiences and assist them to prepare for the next steps in their educational journey.