

Governors' Newsletter

Thorpe Hesley Primary School



Mrs Trudi Toms
Headteacher



Mrs Kerry Hattersley
Chair of Governors

Meet the Governors!

As part of our inaugural newsletter I thought the first thing you would like to know is who we are – and what we do! As you would imagine, the Governing Body at Thorpe Hesley Primary School is newly formed – but that doesn't mean we are inexperienced!! Our members have been serving as Governors in either the Primary, Infant or Junior school from just a few months, up to more than two



decades!! Some of our children left a long time ago – but the impact the school had in their success means we continue to want to be a part of it. We will feature a governor in every newsletter so that you can get to know us, starting with our Chair and Vice Chair in this edition. We are a very approachable bunch, and if you recognise us around school we would be happy to chat to you! We have included a full list of who we are as part of our initial introduction.

What impact do we have?

We recently identified that Boys writing was something we wanted to improve. It was placed on our Developing Excellence Plan, to ensure that attention was focused in this area, then Pat, our literacy governor, met with subject leaders from both buildings, to see how this would be addressed and to ensure consistency. She reported back at a meeting to let us know about efforts in this area and improvements to date.

Other Governor visits this term have been Sam Sukumar looking at Health and Safety, and Tracy Barker looking at Special Educational Needs. Parents are welcome to view Governor Reports, or minutes from our meetings, should you wish to do so.

Our effectiveness...

Recently, schools in Rotherham were given an effectiveness rating by the Local Authority, following consideration of Ofsted visits, minutes from Governing Body meetings, and other information. We were awarded the rating of **an autonomous, consistently improving** governing body – the highest level! This is very unusual and we are proud of our achievement!

More about Governance

All schools have a Governing Body. This is made up of Local Authority Governors, Parent Governors, Elected Governors, Staff Governors and Community Governors.

You do not need to have children in school to be a Governor. The role of the Governor is to be a 'critical friend' to the school – to help set school strategies, monitor the performance of the school and its leaders, and to help ensure that the school has the necessary resources and skill set.

Becoming a Governor gives you a chance to develop lots of skills – such as financial management, project management, and becoming involved in recruitments.

The most important role of a Governing Body is to appoint the Headteacher – something we think we did very well recently!!

Kerry Hattersley Chair

I have been a governor for six years – since my son was in the Infant School. I became a governor because I wanted to get more involved with what was happening in school – and because I had one of those children who when asked, said they 'did nothing' at school! I now have George in Year 6 and Isabelle in Year 3. I was involved in the recruitment of Mrs Toms when we merged the two schools and I was voted in as Chair of the new Primary School – something I am very proud of, and happy about! I genuinely think we have a fantastic staff who really care about our children and I enjoy being able to be involved in the continuous improvement of our school!

Andrew Sowerby – Vice Chair



I have been a governor for 16 years and have served as Chair of the Junior School for 10 years. My daughters both attended Thorpe Hesley, and as I work in education I was interested in getting more involved in their education. I have seen lots of change in school - I have been involved in three Head Teacher recruitments! I felt that the creation of a new school was a good opportunity for me to step back and provide a mentoring role to a new Chair. The new school has brought about lots of opportunities but has always maintained a strong community ethic. I am proud to be a part of that!

Disadvantaged Funding...

You will have seen in the newsletter that we are asking all parents whose children are eligible for disadvantaged (formerly pupil premium funding) to come forward. This is a valuable resource to the school and registering (if eligible) ensures £1300 per child for six years to provide extra support. Some schools in our area attract this payment for over 50% of their pupils. This has a huge impact on the school as the money can be used in a variety of ways to support the children. If you are receiving benefits and think your child may be entitled to this funding please speak to our office staff.

Governor Awards

We have recently announced our fabulous winners of the Governor Awards. Any member of staff can nominate your child, and the winners are selected by a representative panel from the Governing Body.

Autumn Term:

Outstanding Citizen Award:

FS:	Gracie Crookes
Y1:	India Mennell
Y2:	Lily Howe
Y3:	Oliver Lack
Y4:	James Whiting
Y5:	Emily Mumford
Y6:	Ellie Jayne Moran

Spring Term:

Jack Watson
Emily Booth
Cayden Potter
Ashton Davies
Jacob Glasby
Skye Brasher
Tia Edwards-Skelton

Academic Award Infants

Joel Standell	Lawrence Wear
Scout Herbert	Milly Brasher

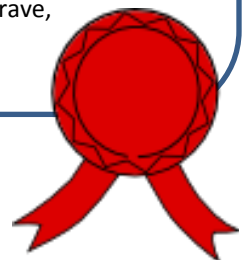
Academic Award Juniors

Travis Booker	Charlie Jones
Hollie Jo Ridge	Olivia Holbert

Congratulations to all these fabulous children and to our runners up:

Autumn Term: Aj Nicolson, Zack Jones, Ben Higgins, Jack Watson, Ayla Oakley, Freya Dawson, Poppy Marshall, Libby Swift, Seth Barrett, Edward Bailey, Lily Shenton, Liam Johnson, Harley Wardle, Alena Crarer, Millie Woodcock, Vivienne Marshall, Charlotte Holmes, Emily Walters, Molly Sampson, Thomas Chappell, Loui Goodinson, Emily Wright, Sophie Otter, Owen Coleman, and Jake Nowill.

Spring Term: Ella Housley, Harley Simpson, Brandon Bell, Isaac Williams, Daniel Laycock, Alex Cooper, Harry Cole, Declan Bell, Harrie Ridge, Milly Brasher, Emiy Thomas, Camron Macleod, Tom Ashforth, Olivia Holbert, Eve Pickering, Archie Brooke, Finlay Barker, Jack Colgrave, Elliott Marshall, Jennifer Woodward, Macy Greaves, Hermione Timms and Tegan Davies.



Who we are

Our Governors give up their time each term to make your school a better place. Please find details of our current Governing Body, our responsibilities, and our link to school.

Name	Role (Area of responsibility)	Link to school
Kerry Hattersley	Chair Safeguarding Equality	George in Year 6, Isabelle in Year 3
Andrew Sowerby	Vice Chair ICT and Computing Pupil Progress and Data	Children have been through school
Tracy Barker	Inclusion Pupil Premium	Child has been through school
Alison Briddock	Training and Development	William in Year 6, Thomas in Year 2
Clare Chappell	Parent Governor	Thomas in Year 5
Jackie Davis	Anti-bullying	Children have been through school
Emma Crarer	Premises, Health and Safety Committee Chair Mathematics	Alena in Year 3
Denise Green	Associate Member	Child has been through school
Joanne Hawkridge	Parent Governor	Lily in Y1, Jude F1 from September
Pat Jones	Curriculum and Standards Committee Chair Literacy	Grandchildren have been through school
Eileen Leeson	Co-opted Governor	Children have been through school
Donna Oakley	Staff Governor	Ayla in F2
Maria O'Brien	Foundation Stage	Amelia in Year 1
Judy Reid	Staffing and Finance Committee Chair	Child has been through school
Louise Reasbeck	Associate Member	Children have been through school
Sarah Scott	Looked After Children	Ben in Year 1, Millie in F1
Sam Sukumar	Parent Governor	Harri in Year 4 and Jo in F2
Louise Smelt	Associate Member	Children have been through school
Trudi Toms	Staff Governor	Head teacher!!
Helen Whitworth	Associate Member	Children have been through school
Denise Woodcock	Staff Governor	Works in school!
Phil Wood	Clerk to the Governing Body	We are just lucky! Phil is an experienced clerk of a few Rotherham schools.

Contact us:
Kerry Hattersley
c/o Thorpe Hesley Primary School

Or please contact the relevant Governor if you have a specific query