



Chestnut Lane School

School Governor Profiles

November 2024

Governor	Profile
Clare Atkinson	<p>I am the Development Director and Data Protection Officer at another local school. I bring with me knowledge of school finance procedures and monitoring. I am also a keen musician and am interested in the way the school promotes the performing arts.</p>
Tom Burkinshaw	<p>My background is in finance and operations at an asset management company.</p> <p>I joined the governing body because I have a toddler approaching school years, and wanted to contribute to and gain a better understanding around primary education.</p>
To-Sum Chan	<p>I have always been passionate about children's learning and development and this role provides a unique opportunity to understand the education system while contributing to an environment that fosters academic excellence and personal development.</p> <p>I wish to use my responsibility as a school governor to assist Chestnut Lane School in achieving its vision, ethos and strategic direction.</p>
Andy Cook	<p>I am a solicitor having previously worked in private practice for a number of years before moving to industry. My youngest son attends Chestnut Lane School following in the footsteps of his brother who now attends Elangeni.</p> <p>Being a father of two young sons I fully appreciate why early years education is so important. I have seen how hard the teaching and support staff work at Chestnut Lane in making it the great school it is. I volunteered as a governor to try and support the school where I can and give something back.</p>
Amanda Munns	<p>I was an advisory teacher for Camden Educational Authority responsible for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC) and Citizenship. I also worked for the British Council running projects with schools, writing educational resources and delivering teacher training internationally.</p> <p>I wanted to be a governor at Chestnut Lane because of the strong community ethos at this school and the emphasis placed on pupil wellbeing and growth.</p>
Christine Plimsaul	<p>I am a retired Headteacher with many years of experience in Infant school settings. I have a particular interest in finding creative ways to enthuse children to learn and develop a broad range of skills and interests alongside their curriculum subjects. I joined the governing body as I enjoy working as part of a team of staff and governors who are committed to achieving the best learning environment and experience for all the pupils in their care.</p> <p>I am the Chair of Governors which means I play a key role in helping the governing board to work as a team to challenge, support and contribute to the strategic leadership of the school.</p>

Ann Rowland	<p>I am a recently retired Clinical Psychologist. I worked with children, young people, and families, and was part of senior leadership teams, in the NHS and the Charity Sector.</p> <p>I have a particular interest in children with special educational needs and disabilities and the emotional well-being of both children and staff. My own three children all attended Chestnut Lane and the education they received gave them a sound foundation to develop into the adults they are now - I am pleased to be able to give something back to the environment that gave them so much.</p>
Valerie Simmonds	<p>Initially I worked in various science research labs and after moving to Amersham trained as a teacher. I taught in several local schools but the majority of my teaching career has been in the local Further Education College teaching Maths, Science and taking the lead for Key/Functional skills form 2000 to 2013.</p> <p>I have also worked as an external examiner and moderator since 1993. I am interested in maintaining standards across qualifications and outdoor activities.</p>
Nicola Vamos	<p>I come from a diverse career background with experience in the corporate sector working for Cap Gemini, NCR, and prior to that for a London Art gallery.</p> <p>Since 2014 I have served as a co-opted governor. I am driven by a commitment to community service and a desire to enhance educational outcomes for children and invest in future generations.</p>
Ilona Verrek	<p>My background is in finance, specifically commercial finance helping to drive revenue and maximise profit. I specialise in fashion which is fun as I have a keen interest in the product and enjoying the discount!</p> <p>I joined the governing body as I want to learn the public sector ways of working and have a positive impact on the school where my child is a student.</p>
Aditi Zutshi	<p>My background is in food science, and health & safety. I now run a health & food safety consultancy business, working with catering and hospitality clients to help them achieve and maintain legal compliance.</p> <p>I joined the governing body to get more involved in the local community and contribute through my knowledge and skills in health & safety. It also presented an opportunity to learn and improve my skills in other areas.</p>