

The Governing Body (as at 1st June 2017)

Type	Name	Term of Office (From)	Term of Office (To)	Committee	Responsibilities/ Link Subject
Head Teacher	Stephanie Praetig	01/09/2009		Pay & Finance	
Chair of Governors & Co-opted	Malcolm Carter	22/09/2016	21/09/2020	Pay & Finance	Chair of FGB, Overseeing Foundation subjects
Co-opted	Alison Radcliffe	01/02/2017	31/01/2021		Vice Chair
Co-opted	Abigail Sollars	15/07/2014	14/07/2018		More Able, Disadvantaged, SEN & PHSE
Co-opted	Vacancy				Numeracy & Maths
Co-opted	Liz Jackson	12/07/2016	11/07/2020		Literacy
Co-opted	Lynne Westhorpe	01/09/2013	31/08/2017		
Co-opted	Rod Ainge	24/11/2016	23/11/2020		
Local Authority	Hilary Richardson	24/11/2016	23/11/2020		Local Authority Governor
Staff	Rachael Groves	21/10/2016	20/10/2020		
Parent	Andy Brandham	02/12/2014	01/12/2018		H&S, Science, Art, DT & Safeguarding
Associate	Steve Holland	29/09/2014			
Clerk	Kim Comer	01/11/2016			

The Governors have the overall responsibility for the running of the school.

They are responsible for seeing that the school fulfils legal requirements (e.g. with regards to the National Curriculum) and the expenditure of the school budget.

In all these areas the Governors work closely with, and are constantly advised by the Head Teacher and school staff.

The Governors are always pleased to hear the views of parents.

Copies of minutes from Governors' meetings and Governor information are available from the school office.

If you need to contact a member of the Governing Body, please telephone the school on 293261, and we will be happy to put you in touch with the appropriate person.

Introduction to the Governing Body



Stephanie Praetig – Head Teacher



Malcolm Carter – Chair

I have been a Governor at Cowes Primary School for a number of years and I still thoroughly enjoy the challenge that this role brings. I became a Parent Governor when both my children were at Cowes Primary school, as I wanted to become more involved with their education. Now that they are now at university and college, I have moved from being a parent to a co-opted Governor and have recently taken over the role as Chair of the Governing body. I am taking a special interest in the foundation subjects to help ensure that they remain high on the school's agenda. I work for Red Funnel since moving to the Island nearly 12 years ago, And currently am based at their West Cowes ticket office.



Alison Radcliffe – Vice Chair

I was appointed onto the Board of Governors two years ago as a Co-opted Governor. My specific skills are in finance and I am also responsible for assessing the training requirements of the governing body. In addition to these roles I can also offer impartial advice drawing on my experience from working in a wide range of businesses to help develop the school and I am enjoying the challenges so far. During the day I am a Finance Director for the group that owns and runs the Isle of Wight Pearl. In addition to the Isle of Wight Pearl we also have our own outlets in Jersey, Cornwall, Tenerife and wholesale division, which sells to retail jewellers in the UK high street under the brand name of Jersey Pearl. I head a team of six dealing with all aspects of the Group's finances for those locations.



Abigail Sollars

I joined the Governing Body in 2010 after moving to Cowes with my family. I now have one daughter at the school, the eldest having moved on to High School. I have recently stepped down as Chair after 4½ years. I am the link governor for Special Educational Needs (SEN), Gifted & Talented (G&T) and PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education). I work part time, both as a massage therapist and a nurse.



Andy Brandham

I joined the Governing Body in 2014 as a Parent Governor. I am the school link governor for Safeguarding and Health & Safety, as well as the subject link governor for Science, Art and Design. I currently have two children attending Cowes Primary School. I work full time as a pharmacist, working for four island GP practices. I also enjoy keeping fit through running regularly and I play for Island cricket and pool teams.



Hilary Richardson

I was invited to join the Governing Body of Cowes Primary in November 2016, having been introduced by Paul Fuller, the local Councillor and have been designated as the Local Authority Governor. I retired to the island in July 2016, from position of Deputy Head /Head of Science at a Kensington Preparatory School, where I had spent 10 years happy, fruitful years. I have experience in recruitment, to the curriculum, setting up residential visits, offering exciting and new challenges to the pupils, to teaching from EYFS to 11+.



Liz Jackson

I joined the Governing Body in July 2016 as a co-opted governor with responsibility for Literacy. I have no other involvement with the school as either a parent or a teacher. However I am a retired Isle of Wight Primary Head Teacher and as such I feel I have many skills and a wealth of experience that I can bring to my new role. This will enable me to give something back to the local community and to contribute to the continued success of Cowes Primary school.



Lynne Westhorpe

I am proud to be a teacher and Co-opted Governor at such an amazing school. I enjoy the different perspective that being a Governor gives. I have also gained a better understanding of how the school operates.



Rachael Groves

I have been working in school environments for 22 years, starting out by volunteering, working as a Midday Supervisory Assistant and as a Learning Support Assistant. I have worked as a teacher at Cowes Primary School for 12 years and began my journey as a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT). Twelve years on and I am now the Key Stage One Leader, Science Coordinator and Food for Life Coordinator. I have a real passion for the outdoors and thoroughly enjoy engaging our children in their learning outside, especially when sowing, growing, producing and harvesting a range of fruits and vegetables within our own school garden. If I am able to get the children to cook and eat our fresh produce - then even better. Although I am new to the role of Staff Governor, I am very much looking forward to developing my own understanding of how the school is run; bringing my own perspective to meetings and representing the team of teachers within the our fabulous school.



Rod Ainge

I have recently joined the Governing Body as a Co-opted Governor. I am 72 years old and have been married to Jenny for 49 years. I am the owner of my own business that has been established in Cowes for nearly 30 years. Our only child was educated at Cowes Primary and I have very much involved on a voluntary basis in schools in the area. I have been a member of Cowes Business Association for 26 years and was Chairman for 5 of those years. As a Grandparent and Guardian I look forward to representing their views and aspirations



Steve Holland

I have been an Associate Governor in my capacity of Deputy Head Teacher for five years. I attend the Achievements & Standards Committee. I bring the school perspective to the committee and also provide a range of experiences to the group; I have been a senior leader in other schools and have had significant management experience in the business sector. Together with my partner we have two grandchildren attending primary schools on the Isle of Wight.

Governing Body Meeting Dates 2017/2018

Thursday 13th July

Thursday 21st September

Thursday 23rd November

Thursday 18th January

Thursday 15th March

Thursday 17th May

Thursday 12th July

(These dates may be subject to slight variation)

Governing Body – Register of Business Interests

Register of School Governor/Business Interests - September 2016

Governor	Category of governor	Relevant business / personal interest	Any other educational establishment governed	Relationships with school staff, inc. spouses / partners / relatives	Date appointed	Term of Office	Committee appointed	Date form completed
Stephanie Praetig	Head	Head Teacher of the school	None declared	None declared	September 2009	N/A		September 2015
Malcolm Carter <i>Chair of governors</i>	Co-opted	None declared	None declared	Janet Carter – Spouse Club Cool Manager	September 2016	4 years	Pay & Finance	October 2016
Alison Radcliffe	Co-opted	None declared	None declared	None declared	January 2015	4 years	Pay & Finance	February 2017
Lynne Westhorpe	Co-opted	Member of school staff	None declared	None declared	September 2013	4 years		February 2017
Abigail Sollars	Co-opted	None declared	None declared	None declared	July 2014	4 Years	Pay & Finance	February 2017
Liz Jackson	Co-opted	None declared	None declared	None declared	July 2016	4 Years		February 2017
Rod Ainge	Co-opted	None declared	None declared	None declared	November 2016	4 Years		February 2017
Vacancy	Co-opted							
Hilary Richardson	Local Authority	None declared	None declared	None declared	November 2016	4 Years	Pay & Finance	February 2017
Andy Brandham	Parent	None declared	None declared	None declared	December 2014	4 years		February 2017
Vacancy	Parent							
Rachael Groves	Teacher	None declared	None declared	None declared	October 2016	4 Years		February 2017

Governing Body Attendance

	Main Meeting	
Date	No attended	% of Total
08/12/2015	8/11	72.72%
09/01/2016	5/9	55.55
19/05/2016	7/7	100%
12/07/2016	8/8	100%
22/09/2016	7/9	77.77%
24/11/2016	9/9	100%
10/01/2017	11/11	100%
14/03/2017	10/11	90.90%
23/05/2017	11/11	100%
Total	76/86	88.37%

	Pay & Finance	
Date	No attended	% of Total
24/11/2016	5/5	100%
10/01/2017	5/5	100%
15/02/2017	3/5	60%
Total	13/15	86.66%