

Hello Everyone

Welcome to Stathern Primary School!

My name is Clare Allen and I am Chair of Governors. I would usually join you all at school on a Welcome Evening but as we are living in such unusual circumstances, I will have to say 'Hello', on behalf of the governing board, in a letter instead until we can hopefully meet properly in August, at the start of the new academic year.

We have a team of 11 governors in total and our main function is to support the school whilst also offering challenge to make sure that our children receive the very best education possible. Our role is very much strategic which means that the Headteacher and staff team make the day to day decisions whilst we support with the bigger picture.

There are three responsibilities that we have to fulfil:

- 1) To ensure that the school has a clear and positive ethos and plan for strategic direction
- 2) To hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- 3) To ensure financial standards are maintained and money is spent in the best way to support outcomes for the children.

We are made up of representatives from parents, staff, the local authority, and the wider community and we work in groups called committees as well as meeting four times a year as a full group. There is a committee who looks at school development and standards, one for Health and Safety and we have a designated Safeguarding governor, and we have a finance committee. This means that we can monitor all aspects of school life. We also have individual responsibilities that link with current areas for school improvement and we often visit the school to carry out monitoring visits where we talk to the teachers and the children. We then report all of our work to the full governing board to make sure that the school continually builds on what is going well and can tweak to make improvements.

Over lock-down we worked hard to design and execute a rigorous, on-line recruitment process to find a new Headteacher along with supporting Mr Lee with making sure that school was a safe place to be for the staff and children throughout the pandemic.

We will miss Mr Lee but are very much looking forward to working with Mrs Lambert as the school enters the next phase of our vision to 'Nurture, Inspire, Discover and Create'.

We cannot wait to meet you and your children and to reunite our school community. So, in the meantime, have a lovely summer and we will see you as soon as we can in September.

With very best wishes

Clare Allen