Introducing our new Governors

Chris Smartt, Parent Governor - Resources Committee
I am married to Alys and we have two children, Megan and Joseph. Megan is in year 1 and Joseph will join the school in September 2016. I have lived in Cromford for 10 years and work as a research scientist in the School of Electronic Engineering at the University of Nottingham.

Gill Donaldson, Co-opted Governor – Teaching & Learning and Resources Committees
I have lived in Derbyshire for 36 years and in Cromford for 31 years. I have recently retired from teaching at Highfields School where I was the SENCo. Both of my daughters attended Cromford School and now my eldest grandson is in year 1. Previously, I was a governor at Cromford as both a parent governor and a foundation governor for a total of 10 years including several years as chair. My hobbies are my grandchildren, walking, knitting and reading – but obviously not all at the same time!

Janet Bonsall, Co-opted Governor - Teaching & Learning Committee
I have lived in Cromford nearly all my life. As a child I attended Cromford Primary School as did my husband, my three children and even my mother in law! I have a background in teaching, both primary and special needs. Although I have recently retired I am keen to maintain my involvement in education and to see Cromford Primary to continue to flourish and grow.

Louise Goode, Foundation Governor - Resources Committee
I have lived in Cromford for the past 9 years and am the mother of 2 young children. I work at Cromford playgroup and think that the school is an important part of the community. My background is in Marketing and Account Management. I am the chair of the Resources Committee.

Complete List of Governors:

Daniele Whittaker	Authority (Chair of Governors)
Gill Donaldson	Co-opted (Vice Chair of Governors)
Sally Wright	Parent (Supporting Vice Chair of Governors)
Liz Foster	Headteacher
Glyn Knighton	Parent
Nicola Paine	Parent
Chirs Smartt	Parent
Janet Bonsall	Co-opted
Isabelle Chatfield	Co-opted
Michael Ledger	Co-opted
Louise Goode	Foundation
Nick Grayshon	Foundation
Julie Taylor	Foundation
Nigel Fletcher	Staff
Julie Hamilton	Clerk to Governors

Types of Governors

- Parent Governors are elected by the parents
- Co-opted Governors are chosen by the Governors amongst the community
- Foundation Governors are elected by the Diocese
- Authority Governors are chosen by the Local Authority
- Staff Governors are elected by the staff

New Curriculum and Assessment Framework (Assessing without Levels)

In September 2014 the Government introduced a new National Curriculum. The school have purchased new Maths and Literacy resources to support the changing requirements. In addition we have begun to buy some new laptops and i-pads to allow us to meet the requirements of the new Computing curriculum which includes writing computer programming code.

A new way of assessing the children and registering their progress was also introduced by the Government last year: assessing without levels. Although the levels previously used have disappeared, it doesn't mean children abilities and progress are not tracked. Each child is assessed according to their skills and the development of these skills is recorded using a new terminology 'emerging, expected, exceeding'. The new tracking system is now fully operational and school will soon organise an open evening to give parents more information.

Attendance levels

Attendance levels are ones of the key criteria schools are judged by. Our target for the year is 95.5%. Unfortunately, after a good start of the year, we were below in December with 94.25%. Could we please ask all parents for your help with this. Attending school every day and on time is one of the simplest things you can do to help your child do better at school. The school has put in place a reward system to encourage the children to attend regularly. Don't hesitate to talk to your teacher / Mrs Foster. They can help solve any difficulties in getting your child to go to school - and there are other forms of support available if you still have problems. **Thanks in advance for your help with this.**