

Woodthorpe J.I. School's Governing Body – 2016/ 2017

Parent Governors

Angela Chatham (Parent Governor)

I have been a parent Governor at Woodthorpe J&I School since 2009. Woodthorpe is an amazing school and I'm proud to be a Governor. I am currently the Vice Chair of the Governing Body and Chair of the Curriculum Committee.

My background for the last 19 years is in marketing, business development, management and leadership. I feel that, with my business & communication skills, I can support the school in a variety of ways and bring skills not traditionally found in a school environment.

I feel passionately that all children should have access to excellent education standards and should be given the opportunity to grow and learn in a happy, caring environment. I believe Primary Schools need to be the best they can be and I am proud to commit my time & experience to supporting that belief.

Justine Derry (Parent Governor)

I have been a co-opted governor since January 2017, prior to that I was a parent governor for four years. As a parent of two children who have both attended Woodthorpe. I felt that becoming a governor was an effective way to give something back to the school.

As part of my Link governor role I am involved with Literature and Science and a member of the Health and Safety Committee. I am also SEN Governor for the school.

I have been a governor for just over four years now and look forward to my continued involvement with the school in this role. I am an active member of the school's Parent Association (Chair) and volunteer in the school library. I previously worked in IT for over twenty years but now enjoy running my own small business.

Luisa Gibson (Parent Governor)

I became a parent governor in 2016 after my stepson started the school. After having a difficult time in my own education, I felt the best way to make changes was to become a school governor. I feel all children, regardless of their ability or background, have the right to a good education and a happy childhood. Prior to taking up this post, I spent 10 years volunteering with a youth advice service and several years volunteering with university student unions. Both of these roles gave me insight to the issues faced by children and young people in our modern society, which I feel I can apply to my role as a parent governor. I am also on the curriculum and policy board.

Shagufta Sultan (Parent Governor)

I have two children; one who is in Year 2 at Woodthorpe and my other child who has just left and is in Year 7 at secondary school. I am Chair of the Finance and Building Committee, Link Governor to Pupil Premium, and Art & Design Technology, and a member of the Full Governing Body.

I became a parent governor in 2010 as I have always had an interest in education as I have worked and volunteered in the primary sector of education for over 16 years and I also wanted to support Woodthorpe School in giving the best education to all of our children.

Martin Webster (Parent Governor)

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As part of my Link governor role I am involved with Literature and Science and a member of the Health and Safety Committee. I am also SEN Governor for the school. I have been a governor for just over four years now and look forward to my continued involvement with the school in this role. I am an active member of the school's Parent Association (Chair) and volunteer in the school library. I previously worked in IT for over twenty years but now enjoy running my own small business.

Staff Governor and Head Teacher

Linda McGrath (Head Teacher)

I have been deputy head teacher at Woodthorpe JI School since 2007, and now have the privilege and honour of serving the school and its community as Head Teacher. We are a happy, inclusive school and I look forward to continuing to build a future of opportunity for our children. This is made possible by our dedicated team of staff and governors and from the support of our parents, carers and wider community.

Matt Trevor (Staff Governor)

I have been teaching at Woodthorpe J&I since 2008 and have been a Staff Governor for the large majority of that time. I have spent 5 years teaching in Year 6, and been more recently based in Years 3 and 4. My school responsibilities involve leading both Physical Education and Computing within the school, as well as forming part of the e-Safety and Buildings and Finance committees. My recent appointment as Deputy Head Teacher of the school mean that I have an important role to play on both a strategic and operational level at the school.

I am passionate and enthusiastic towards the need for transparent and efficient methods of communication between all stakeholders at the school and have been proud of what the Governing Body has achieved over recent years.

Co-opted Governors

Marion Atkin (Co-opted Governor).

Both of my children attended Woodthorpe School between 2001 and 2010 and in 2006 I was elected to the Governing Body as a Parent Governor. My children both enjoyed their time at Woodthorpe School and received an excellent education whilst there. When my children moved on to Secondary school I was very happy to be asked to be a Co-opted Governor.

I have held a number of posts within the Governing body over the years and I am now the Chair. I feel very proud of the school and will continue to work to ensure that all the children receive the education they deserve. My profession is a Chief Audiologist and I work at the QE Hospital.

Samantha Bradley (Co-opted Governor)

I have been a governor at Woodthorpe J&I School for the last 7 years. I became a parent governor in 2010 when both my children were pupils at the school. I am now a co-opted governor and a member of the Finance & Buildings Committee. I held the position of Chair of Woodthorpe Friends for 7 years and enjoyed fundraising and putting together fun events for the children. As a Governor I still enjoy helping at these events and supporting Woodthorpe Friends.

I work for the Alzheimer's Society as a Dementia Support Worker.

Rebecca Carrington (Co-opted Governor)

I have been teaching at Woodthorpe since 2013, and last year became a co-opted governor. Since starting at the school I have been teaching Year 6. My other responsibilities include leading Maths, French, Educational Visits and Pupil Premium. I am also a member of the Curriculum and Policy committee.

I am committed to the school and have gained a great insight into the wider aspects of running a school since joining the governing body. I am enjoying the opportunity to also share my perspective and knowledge of the children and school with the governors.

Councillor Eva Phillips (Co-opted Governor)

I was appointed as a Local Authority Governor in 2011 and was delighted to become a co-opted governor under new rules in 2015. My son is currently a pupil at the school. As well as being Vice-Chair of the Governing Body, I am a member of the Finance and Building Committee. I have helped the school claim money owing to them from the council and persuaded a flooring firm to redo work that was not up to standard when negotiations stalled.

As well as cheerleading the children and the school I can be counted on to ask difficult questions.

I have been both a Probation Officer and Employment Officer in my previous career. Both these jobs have made me realise that education really is the top political priority. I'm proud to be part of the Woodthorpe team, offering a first rate education to local families.

Lesley Ryan (Co-opted Governor)

I have worked full time as a hospital pharmacist and manager at The Priory Hospital in Edgbaston for the last 30 years, Both my children are presently at university and both benefitted from attending Woodthorpe Junior and Infant school.

I became a governor 16 years ago and have been the chair of governors for the last 12 years. I was very lucky to have received a good education in Britain and enjoyed every minute of it. I believe that being a governor is a brilliant way of doing my bit to ensure our children get a similarly good start in their education and life.

Woodthorpe governors are all committed to this common goal and give their time freely to ensure all our children benefit from this brilliant school that we have, but we have fun doing our bit too!

Steve Wright (Co-opted Governor)

I have been a Governor at this school for over 12 years - starting as a Parent Governor when my children were at this school. I have held various positions from Vice Chair to Chair of the Curriculum Committee. As a Learning & Development and Health & Safety Manager I believe I can provide additional skills that support the school and pupils. I am very proud of the teachers and pupils at Woodthorpe with not only the results they achieve but also the ethos and environment they create to give pupils a great experience.

Local Authority Governor

Currently vacant, awaiting LA nominations.