



Calmore Infant School

Governors' Parent Newsletter December 2022

Welcome to the Calmore Infant School Governors' Newsletter

The aims of this Newsletter are:

- To introduce ourselves so that you can get to know us better;
- to update all our parents and carers of the school's improvement priorities for the academic year 2022-23;
- to encourage our parents and carers to feel involved in the school.

For further governor information look on our school's website.

The Board of Governors currently has 9 members plus our clerk Kelly Edwards, Mrs. Willes as Headteacher and Mrs Weaver as a staff governor.

All governors meet at the Full Governing Board meetings which are held six times throughout the academic year. Within the meetings we discuss finance and budget, school curriculum, health and safety, staff and children's wellbeing, the educational needs of the children and the monitoring and delivery of the school improvement plan.

How do Governors keep in touch with all that is going on in school?

How do they know the real issues and challenges that the school faces?

Our Governors give up their time to come into school and

See the classes and the children working.

They also go on learning walks around the school to see for themselves the learning environment.

They talk to the children and the members of staff and report back on their visits at Governor visits

Governors are available at parent evenings, YR R parent meeting and attend some of the parent work-shops so they can meet and talk to parents.

All governors have responsibility to the safety and well-being of both the staff and children.

They ensure priority budget spending is for the recruitment and retainment of high quality staff who share the school vision and high expectations and resources that ensure the children have the best education.

Who are the Governors?

We come from all walks of life and we have taken on the voluntary role of supporting the Headteacher and staff in our school to ensure it provides the highest quality learning environment for our children, manage the budget so the priorities meet the needs of the school and be accountable for the safeguarding and efficient and effective running of the school.

Trudi Archer



Hi, my name is Trudi Archer and have strong links with the school as both my children and grandchildren attended Calmore Infants.

I am very proud to be the Chair of Governors and therefore will be working closely with Mrs. Willes and her team as well as the dedicated team of School Governors who all give up their time for the school and your children.

In addition, I work with the Special Education Needs co-ordinator as the SEN governor. We meet to discuss and look through the extra support given to the children where needed both to help them improve and move forward as well as enabling those children with a greater depth of learning. Together we look at actions and activities taken within their learning and track and evidence the improvements made for the children to ensure a positive outcome. We have also linked governors to curriculum subjects and I am delighted to be linked to both Music and Art, where I will observe music lessons and gain a greater understanding of the Art topics to support the curriculum and how they link through their years at Calmore Infants.

Working closely with Mrs. Willes enables me to observe first hand the dedication of the staff and their continuous focus to create a remarkable school that cements the foundations for a rounded knowledge and enriched curriculum for the children.

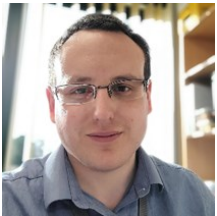
I also spend time when able with both the staff and children to ensure the safety and well-being of both staff and pupils is at the forefront. Having retired from my main career now, being part of the Governing a body has enabled me to transfer my skills, however it is so much more. It is a privileged position that I take seriously to observe the hard work and delivery from all the staff to ensure the children have an enriched education, a safe and joyful environment and experience a wide ranging curriculum to prepare and set the foundations needed on their educational and life journey.

Mark Gurd



I was elected a parent governor in January 2020 and continue to support the school as a co-opted governor. From my first visit to Calmore Infant school I was impressed with the school environment and the dedication of its staff and I was keen to be a part of the board of Governors. My roles on the Governing Board have included chairing the finance and staffing committee and supporting the COVID committee. Currently I am the dedicated wellbeing governor and part of the pay committee and the head teacher performance management committee. I also supported the governor recruitment panel that made the head teacher appointment in 2021. My day job as a HR professional enables me to add expertise to each of these roles and I am proud to be part of the school's leadership team. You will still see me around the school so please do come and say hello!

John Bucci



Roles: Health & Safety Lead, PSHE & RE Subject Governor, Curriculum & Welfare Governor, Pay Committee Member

Just entering my third year as a parent governor at Calmore Infants, having had my oldest daughter go through the school a few years ago and my youngest in his final year. I started off in 2020 sitting on the Curriculum & Welfare Committee and picking up roles in 2021/22 including Health & Safety Lead, PSHE & RE Subjects and becoming a member of the Pay Committee. My current role away from the school as a Commissioning Manager for a local Engineering/Construction company lends itself well in knowledge of health and safety regulations in the workplace and attention to small details.

Since joining the team at Calmore I have worked closely with many members of staff and fellow governors and have been very impressed with the amount of dedication and hard work I've witness though what has been a very unique and challenging time period for everyone. I look forward to continuing with the team in 2022/23

Jo Dorricott



I became a Governor when my children attended Calmore Infant School and have enjoyed it so much I have continued. Calmore really is a special place where children are at the forefront of everything we do. It is a privilege to work alongside the other Governors as we all have different strengths – mine being in education as I have been an Infant Headteacher for the last 16 years. I have had the opportunity to work in different areas of the school like assessment, Headteachers performance management and more recently Early Years. I have enjoyed meeting the Early Years Lead to review action plans and see impact of the work of the school on pupil outcomes.

Dr Chris Prior Co-opted Governor, and Chair of Curriculum and Welfare Committee



I have been a governor at Calmore for nearly seven years. I am the school's Safeguarding Governor – I have had this role for three years. This means that I work with the Headteacher and her team on ensuring Calmore remains a safe and happy environment for everyone. This is always an important issue. I help ensure that the school is complying with its legal obligations surrounding keeping Calmore pupils safe and happy. I saw firsthand how, throughout the pandemic, the staff did an amazing job of keeping things going in a safe way. This is not an easy thing to do at the best of times – there is a lot of legislation, and a lot of different things that need to be kept on top of, but I'm happy to say that, in all the time I've been in this role, I've always found Calmore to do safeguarding very well. The staff at our brilliant school deserve our thanks and support for all they are doing to make sure pupils remains happy and safe.

Charlie Skeels



I'm the Vice Chair governor at Calmore Infant School, which has been a fantastic challenge and a truly rewarding experience. I am a member of the Curriculum and Welfare Committee as the Literacy Governor. In my role, I regularly liaise with the literacy leader to analyse data and review approaches to teaching and learning to ensure the high standards are being maintained. It is evident to see vast improvements in both the children's books and their enthusiasm to their learning. I have been overwhelmed at the outstanding efforts from staff to continue to provide such innovative and effective teaching, particularly in these unprecedented times. Additionally, I am responsible for ensuring individual and whole governing body training is up to date. The children really are a credit to our school. I'm proud to be a part of this community and I look forward to seeing the progress of Calmore Infants continue to flourish.

Kevin Curtis



I am a co-opted Governor now, having started as a Parent Governor with both of my children going to Calmore Infants. I cover maths tuition seeing the brilliant work the staff do to help engage all the pupils and progress their maths abilities. I am also on the finance committee ensuring that the finances we have are managed carefully and used to the maximum effect for the pupils.

James Mann

I am a co-opted Governor with roles on the Finance committee and a Forum Governor.

Matt Edwards – Parent Governor

I am new to the role as a Parent Governor. I am looking forward to joining the other Governors in supporting the school in my new role.

Matt Gardner– Parent Governor



I have been a Parent Governor for Calmore Infant School since December 2020. I am currently a member of the Curriculum & Welfare Committee. Being booked onto several training courses I trust this will enable me to support my fellow Governors & grow within my role. I have been extremely impressed by the attitudes from all the Governors, especially in these challenging times. There seems a real togetherness & common goals to maintain the very high standards of the school plus strive to improve them wherever possible. Hopefully, I can make a positive contribution to this moving forward.

Sarah Willes– Headteacher



I have been a the Staff Governor for many years now, I represent the school from the perspective of the staff. I attend governor meetings in order to keep the governors fully informed of school life and the areas we are developing. We are so lucky at Calmore to have such keen and supportive governors, ensuring that our school is challenged and supported to be the best that we can. I am working with the governors and staff to implement the recovery curriculum. This will ensure that the gaps in learning from lockdown are addressed and all children are supported and challenged to make good progress. We really want all of our children to leave our school being happy well rounded individuals that love learning and are competent with the basic skills required to be successful.

Adele Weaver– Staff Governor



I am a staff governor but have worked with the governing body for many years in my role as SENCO and newly appointed Deputy Headteacher. I have good experience in teaching all year groups at Calmore Infant School. I am currently working with staff to make sure that all children have access to a high quality curriculum that is relevant to them.