

Your Governors

David Jones – Co-Chair - Co-opted Governor



David has worked in the NHS within Estates & Facilities Management for over 10 years and is currently the Director of Estates, Facilities & Capital Development at the University Hospital Southampton Trust. David has lived in Tongham for the last 14 years. David's daughter is in year 7 at Ash Manor.

Paul Spooner – Co-Chair - Co-opted Governor



Paul is a Borough Councillor representing Ash South & Tongham at Guildford BC and was an Ash Parish Councillor for 9 years, having stood down in April 2020. He led Guildford BC from 2015-19. He has a very keen interest in health and education. He was Chairman/Vice Chairman of Governors at Waverley Abbey for 12 years and has been involved in education at a political level for over a decade. Paul also has a 'day job' as Commercial Director of a medtech business based near Vienna in Austria.

Philippa Sampson-Bancroft - Vice Chair - Co-opted Governor



Philippa is a Chartered Surveyor with a background in planning and development and has worked in housing and regeneration for over fifteen years, she currently works for the Greater London Authority. As a passionate Geographer she has previously volunteered as an Ambassador for the Royal Geographical Society promoting Geography to secondary school students and encouraging them to continue to study the subject at A-Level and beyond. Philippa joined the governing body in 2017 as a co-opted governor and became Vice-Chair in 2018, taking responsibility for the governors' programme of Strategic Visits.

Tom Aslin - Co-opted Governor



Tom is a Chartered Accountant, and a partner in the forensic accounting team of a top twenty firm of accountants, based in central London. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, a member of the Expert Witness Institute and a member of the Academy of Experts. Tom lives in and grew up in the local area and has two children, the eldest of which started at Ash Manor in 2014. Tom became a Governor in 2015 and is the Chair of the Resources Committee.

Miranda Harrison - Co-opted Governor



Miranda is Head of Science Faculty at Rowhill School in Hampshire. This is a Pupil Referral Unit for students at risk of permanent exclusion or unable to attend mainstream secondary for a variety of reasons. Miranda has been a governor in Surrey for 13 years. Miranda has one child going into year 10 and one starting year 7.

Sumeetra Ramakrishnan – Co-opted Governor



Sumeetra is a Senior Lecturer in Tourism and Hospitality at Middlesex University, specializing in human resources, organisational behaviour and student aspirations. As a University academic involved in employability and aspirations research, she is very interested in the relevance of holistic support, career choices and opportunities provision in determining personal and professional growth for young individuals. Sumeetra is a volunteer at the Education and Employers charity, where she visits schools and sixth form colleges to talk about career opportunities for young girls, and acts a mentor for young people considering various professional career options. Sumeetra lives in Normandy, and as a parent of two young girls constantly strives to appreciate opportunities and wellbeing for the next generations.

Jane Sheridan – Co-opted Governor



Jane is an Education Business Consultant working in partnership with local and national businesses to bring career education, challenges and events into schools. In addition, she has been appointed as the STEM Co-ordinator and Careers Leader for Ash Manor to provide students with STEM and business related enrichment opportunities and is responsible for Ash Manor's Careers Programme. Jane became a Parent Governor in 2011 and is now a Co-opted Governor and chair of the Student Experience Committee.

Margaret Wickham – Co-opted Governor



Margaret works for an international trade finance organisation based in Guildford. She became a Parent Governor in 2015 after her son started at the school to support the education of all the students at Ash Manor. Margaret is one of the Governors linked to Safeguarding as well as being a member of the Student Experience committee.

Amy Woodyer – Staff Governor



Amy joined Ash Manor in 2015 as a Teacher of science and is now Head of Phoenix House. Amy has a long history with local community having grown up in Tongham and attended Ash Manor herself as a student before going on to study Forensic and Archaeological Sciences at University. Amy wanted to become a staff governor as she is passionate about the opportunities for young people within the local community and is now a member of the student experience committee.

Alasdair Whitelaw – Parent Governor



Al has worked in education for most of his career. He started teaching adults in prisons and on probation. He has worked in secondary PRUs and Primary Special Schools. He is currently the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Coordinator, working across the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. He manages a team to reduce exclusions and promote engagement for vulnerable children across the borough. He lives locally and has a daughter in year 7 at Ash Manor and another in year 4 at Wyke.

Steve Westcott – Parent Governor



Steve has worked as a Business Analyst in the Telecommunications and Media industry for most of his career. He has lived in Ash Vale with his wife for 20 years, and has two sons at Ash Manor, one in year 9 and one in year 11. He enjoys the outdoor life and has been encouraging young people through his involvement with the Scout organisation since his own childhood, currently holding the position of Explorer Scout Leader with one of the local units. He joined the board of governors this year.