

ANDREW NAUGHTON (VICE CHAIR)

In 1994 I became a parent governor at Lionel Walden Primary School and am now a Local Authority governor. I have lived in Doddington for 32 years.

My reason for first becoming a governor was because I wanted to be actively involved in school life at a time when our two daughters were being educated at Lionel Walden and to have a better understanding of the many changes that were being made within the education system at the time. Our daughters enjoyed an excellent education at Lionel Walden and our eldest went on to become a primary school teacher which is positive testimony to her time at Lionel Walden. After they left, I was keen to continue providing help and support to the school and to ensure all children have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. After 26 years, changes within the education system continue apace and despite the many and varied challenges encountered, the school remains as focused today as ever in providing children with the best possible start in life.

Having previously worked in the financial sector, I was encouraged from the start to become involved with school finances and I have been Chair of the Finance Committee for most of my time as a school governor. I am also Vice Chair of the Governing Board and have responsibility for Pupil Premium activity.

CAROLINE BUCKLE

I have recently transferred to a co-opted governor having previously served for eight years as a parent governor at Lionel Walden Primary School. When I joined, my own two children were pupils at the school but they have since moved onto their secondary education locally. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a governor which made my decision to remain in post, once I could no longer serve as a parent governor, an easy one.

I am currently the link governor with responsibility for the curriculum and I also sit on the appointments panel. I enjoy both these different roles.

The main reason for wanting to take on this very challenging role was to have an input into children's education which is ever evolving. I felt that I would like gain a better understanding of primary education in order to help the transition process for young people as I work in a secondary school and having this background in education has assisted me in my role as a governor. I assist with Year 6 transition so I have gained lots of knowledge over the years working with many other local primary schools.

I remain committed and consequently attend various training courses over each academic year; these cover many aspects of what is expected of governors and the roles we undertake. I continue to attend local briefings run by Cambridgeshire County Council so that my knowledge remains up to date at all times.

I share the schools joint vision to make sure we are ambitious for each and every one of our pupils and their achievements are at the heart of everything we do as we strive to recognise, nurture and reward these. We are as proud of our social and sporting achievements as well as our academic performance. The successes we enjoy are due to the strong partnership we are proud to hold between both children, parents, staff and governors alike.

I feel very proud of what we have achieved during my time here as a governor and very much look forward to the new challenges that we will no doubt be facing during the coming years.

VERONICA CRONIN

My name is Veronica Cronin and I have been governor at Lionel Walden since 2010 when I was first elected as a parent governor while my daughter attended the school. I currently serve on the Governing Board as Link Governor for Special Education Need and Disability (SEND).

I have been a primary school teacher for over twenty years and during that time I have also been a SENDCo (co-ordinator for Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and a member of the senior leadership team. I currently work for Cambridgeshire County Council within the Education Directorate, People and Communities as a Specialist Teacher. I advise and support primary schools and early years settings with their provision to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.

I also deliver training to schools and settings around different aspects of SEND relating to the four areas of need: Communication and Interaction (C&I); Cognition and Learning (C&L); Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH); and Sensory and/Physical Needs (P&SN). I am also a Lead Trainer for the Autism Education Trust (AET).

I love my job as I feel that I am making a difference to some of society's most vulnerable pupils.

As SEND Link Governor, I am a critical friend supporting Ruth Wilson, the SENDCo. We aim to meet once a term, as a minimum, to evaluate the school provision for SEND and other vulnerable groups.

I am still involved in Scouting but slightly further afield than Doddington (London).

My ethos is to help every child, especially those with SEND, to help identify their need and direct appropriate support enabling them to progress and reach their full potential as members of our school and wider community.

KAY NAUGHTON

I have been employed at Lionel Walden Primary School as a Teaching Assistant since 1996 and have been a governor since 1998. My two daughters, who are now adults themselves, both attended this school and have fond memories of these formative years. My husband and I have recently become very proud grandparents for the first time. I am the Senior Teaching Assistant and have a leading role in managing and deploying the team of thirteen Teaching Assistants. My enthusiasm for working at the school gave me the drive to want to learn more and involve myself in the work of the Governing Board. Twenty-two years later, having seen the school grow to what it is today, I still have that same enthusiasm. I am involved with so much of what the school provides. My expertise comes from the length of time working here across all age ranges and all curriculum areas, however in recent years my expertise is very much in Year 6. I am involved with Computing and PSHE which are key areas of the curriculum. Every day I witness the day-to-day running of the school and help to promote and embed decisions made by the Governing Board. I feel my experience is highly beneficial and informative to the Governing Board.

GARY CROXON

I continue to enjoy my role as a parent governor for Lionel Walden Primary School and hope that I can continue to bring strategic support to the school which will help continue, and improve, the positive outcomes it achieves. Thank you to the other governors and the staff who are very supportive of us in these roles. While supporting the Head and her team across all school matters, my link area covers the early years; pre-school and reception class.

I work for a national educational membership charity where I lead on a number of projects across East Anglia, mainly focusing on early years childcare, wrap around care for school age children and business and family support services. I have a strong knowledge of safeguarding, child protection and the early years sector. I have gained a Level 5 in Leadership Capability awarded by Coventry University and I hope my skills and knowledge in HR, people management, financial management and leadership continue to benefit the governors and the school.

STUART CAVE

I have lived in the village of Doddington for nearly 20 years and have two sons attending Lionel Walden Primary School. The school has a fantastic reputation for the standard of education provided that is backed up by excellent academic results. I was fortunate to join the Board of Governors and become involved in the strategic

decisions that affect not only the day to day running but also the future of the school. My background in the construction industry, rather than education, enables me to enter discussions from a different angle and question the reasoning behind the decisions of the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. I thoroughly enjoy working with the school team and current Board of Governors; our focus is to maintain and progress the high standards of achievement, enjoyment and fulfilment for both current and future pupils of the school in a safe and happy environment.

PAUL RICHMOND

I am thoroughly looking forward to getting stuck in to my role as a Parent Governor. Being new to the team, I have a lot to learn but feel I also have a lot to give. With a military background, hopefully I can use some of my skills and experience to help improve the already excellent standards that the staff and Governing Board have set. I have instructed in training schools providing communications, working at height and leadership courses so I am familiar with all aspects of Health and Safety, legislation and policy, so in some respect the roles are not too dissimilar. I have lived in Doddington for 10 years and have two children that currently attend the school so have seen first-hand how well the school operates, the quality of education provided and the communication channels forged between staff and parents.

I am also a committee member of the Doddington Christmas Lights and a manager with the Chatteris Town Young Lillies Football Club.