



Phoenix Infants and Nursery school

Governors Newsletter

Summer Term 2021

By Andy Dunn

The chair of the Phoenix Infants and Nursery School Governors, Sonya Hand, has asked me to pen the summer term Governor's Newsletter. It's a chance to thank everyone who has worked so hard this year and I thought it may be a good idea to introduce the full Governing team to you all as we have had some changes recently.

It has been a busy Summer Term for everyone at school and the exacting challenges of the pandemic has only added to these testing times. I would first like to thank Lisa Harper, Head Teacher and Nicola Broad, Deputy Head Teacher, and their amazing team at the school for their diligence in making Phoenix a happy and safe learning environment for the children. It is difficult to put into words the sacrifices the whole team has made to ensure every child has some form of uninterrupted primary education. The atmosphere and morale of the staff and pupils in school is testament to their hard work.

We understand that this would not have been possible to achieve without the help of the Parents and Carers of all our children. From an education perspective the pandemic took away the reassuring custom of a daily physical gathering at school and the comfort that came with that. For some it was a solitary and isolating experience, aside from the serious health concerns. The governors would like to thank you all for your understanding, versatility, self-motivated persistence and dedication in adapting to this new way of learning, on top of all the other challenges you face. The happiness, and progress that each child has made, is a credit to you.

Last but not least, we would like to thank the children, for their resilience, hard work and of course smiles. I see them every day and they make it all worthwhile.

It has never been more true when said that the children make the weather in Phoenix infants and Nursery School and the sun is always shining.

Phoenix Infants and Nursery School Governors Summer 2021

Both the Head Teacher, Lisa Harper and Deputy, Nicola Broad sit on the governing body and play a major role as part of the school leadership team.



I'm Sonya Hand, I have been a governor at Phoenix for 4 years and am currently the chair of the board. I have a background in Criminal Justice and when I get time I enjoy reading and cooking. My link areas are pupil premium and safeguarding.



Hi, I'm Andy Dunn, the site manager at Phoenix, I've been a Governor since 2017 and on the Finance committee. I am also the link governor for Pupil Wellbeing. I come from a Police background and was an Adventure training instructor in the Army. I like to spend my spare time outside and love Climbing and sea kayaking.



I'm Helen Derby and I am a co-opted and vice-chair governor for Phoenix. I have had both my boys attend Phoenix with my second leaving this year. I am on the Pupils, Personnel and Strategic Development PPS committee and also the link governor for special educational needs (SEN) and curriculum. I have a background working within SEN and disability sport so very passionate about inclusion. I love being active and being out and about with my children and dogs.



Hi I am Laura George. I'm a teaching assistant at Phoenix and I have been a governor for about 2 years. I am on the Pupils, Personnel and Strategic Development committee and I am a link governor for curriculum. I have a background in childcare and art and design. I enjoy doing research and taking on new challenges like training our new puppy!



I'm Sophie Hayes-Watson, I've worked in Education for 6 years and am passionate about schools achieving best value to be able to give the pupils the best resources possible. I am chair of the finance committee and link governor for Pupil Premium. In my personal time I love spending time with my 18-month-old and going on lots of new adventures.



Hi, I'm Anna Scrivens –Sabin, I am a Deputy Head Teacher at an Infant school and the link governor for Early Years. I've been a governor at Phoenix since 2017 and sit on the Finance and Pupils, Personnel and Strategic Development committees. I enjoy spending my free time with my family and in our campervan.



Hi, my name is James Saunders. I've been a parent Governor for nearly two and a half years. This is my first time as a Governor, although I used to work closely with Governing Bodies on school building projects when I lived and worked in Leeds. My eldest son attends school at Phoenix and my youngest should hopefully be joining nursery next year. I have recently become chair of the Pupils, Personnel and Strategic Development (PPS) Committee and am link Governor for blended learning, which I'm sure we all hope we won't need to use for much longer! In work I am a Project Manager. Outside of work I enjoy playing football and golf and spending time with my family.



Hi, I'm Tanya Jones. I'm a co-opted Governor, appointed in March 2019 and I am on the finance sub-committee due to my financial background. I have worked in education for 11 years and am Chief financial officer in a multi-academy trust in Leicestershire.



I'm Laura Green. I am a new Parent Governor and am a link Governor for staff and pupil wellbeing. I work in environmental management. Outside of work I like to sew and cook, we love being outside as a family too!



Hi, I am David Colyer. I live in Gedling. I was first a Governor at Phoenix when my four children attended in the 1980's and 1990's. A few years ago I was "volunteered" to come back and found the same dedication from staff and happy children. As a lawyer with some experience of health and safety I was asked to take on that role. Having been a Judge for 25 years I had retired but currently called back for one day a week.