

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Parent survey that was completed in the summer term, where some parents were unsure of the role of our Governors, welcome to the first of our Governor updates!

This update will give an overview of the role of the Governor, what we do and how we support the school and also introduce some of our governors.

### **What is the School Governing Board?**

The whole community helps a school to be the best it can be. That's why a school has a governing board, made up of local volunteers called governors, working together towards a shared goal of providing high quality education and an enriching experience for all pupils.

Governors contribute their life and work experiences, community knowledge and personal skills to making sure schools are successful for everyone.

Working alongside Mrs Greenwood, Governors at Wellstead set the culture and values and respond to the opportunities and challenges facing the school. They are committed to driving improvement even when it's difficult. Meeting regularly, they look at the big picture and long-term goals for the school, regularly monitoring the School Improvement Plan and visiting the school to see how plans are working in practice. Governors listen to the views of staff, pupils, parents and the wider community, and make recommendations and provide challenge based on what they have seen.

The Wellstead Governing Body plays a part in big decisions, such as:

- Appointing a Headteacher
- Deciding how money is spent.
- Planning for the future.
- Evaluating what is and isn't going well.

Governors work closely with the senior leadership team, supporting and advising them and challenging them in equal measure. Championing the school and its pupils at every turn, they ensure everyone can flourish and achieve their best and that the school is sustainable and thriving now and ready for future generations.

## What are the different types of governors?

- **Parent Governors**

At Wellstead we have two parent governors, who have been elected by parents to bring a parental perspective to the issues discussed. They are not necessarily there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body.

- **Staff Governor**

At Wellstead one staff member is elected by the staff body to sit on the board and provide a staff perspective as well as acting as a link between Governors and staff.

- **Co-opted and Local Authority Governors**

At Wellstead we have nine additional governors, who come from many different walks of life. Some are parents and some are people from the local community who have a passion for improving the school experience for our children.

- **The Headteacher**

The Headteacher is an important part of the Governing Board.

## What kind of things can you talk to Governors about?

- Your views on changes that have taken or are taking place
- Challenges and opportunities facing families and the community
- Your views on what the school is doing well or needs to do better
- How topics like mental health, behaviour or the curriculum affects your child

## Meet some of our Governors:

### **Katie Griffin - Parent Governor**



I'm Katie and I've been a Governor for 2.5 years. I'm one of the parent governors which means I have two children in school (one in year 6 and one in year 3) and was elected by the parents to join the Governing Body. One of the main reasons I do this role is to support the development of the school particularly through my role on the Resources Committee where I leverage my experiences in finance, risk and governance from working for a professional services firm for the past 16 years.

### **Rob Gregoratti- Co-opted Governor**



Having joined Wellstead as a "newbie" Governor in July 2022, as well as normal governance duties I am the dedicated Safeguarding Governor, member of the Headteacher Performance Committee and recently became Vice-Chair of the Governing Board. On a day to day basis, I work in Financial Services, advising insurance companies on designing customer-centric governance, simpler processes and innovation - all of which translate perfectly into school governance! Being a Governor gives me a meaningful voice to ensure every child has the best start in life and enjoyable, impactful education - and nothing beats being in school and seeing the happiness in their eyes in every moment both in learning and outside!

### **Matt Gillett - Co-opted Governor**



I am the Chair of the Resources Committee, which covers items such as financial budgets and also the Health & Safety governor. I am an accountant and have been a governor at Wellstead for approximately 2.5 years. I became a governor because I wanted to support the school that my children attend and I also find it very rewarding and enjoyable to have the opportunity to visit the school.

Meet more of our Governors next month!

If you have anything you would like to talk to governors about or have any further questions about what the Wellstead Governing Body does, please email - the school office and we can put you in touch with the right person. We will include some of the questions you ask, and our answers, in the next newsletter.

Kind regards,

Wellstead Governing Body