

## Governor overview / Introducing the governors

We hope that everyone has had a positive start to the new school year and we thank those parents / carers who attended the recent welcome meetings at Bentley and Copdock.

A lot of the work the governing board does takes place in the background and after school. We therefore welcome the opportunity to visit the schools, talk to the children, be visible and meet with parents / carers. We aim to attend open evenings and school events to be available to talk to, so please don't leave us standing on our own looking awkward, come and say hello.

We become school governors for a number of reasons, in my case I was a commuter and made a rare appearance at my son's school. I was in the wrong place at the wrong time, it had been a long day and I allowed the Headteacher to talk me into becoming a parent governor. That was 24 years ago! Others are; Foundation governors, appointed through the church; Local Authority governors appointed through Suffolk County Council; Co-opted governors, where either our children are no longer in the schools or we are members of the community, volunteering for the role; and staff governors. Whatever our governor type, we are all dedicated to supporting school leaders to achieve the schools' vision, to ensure all pupils become:

*confident individuals, successful learners and responsible citizens*

*... who are well equipped for future life, whatever that may hold.*

The 3 core functions of the Governing Board are:

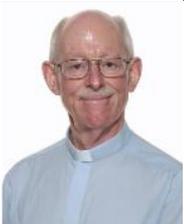
1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding executive leaders to account;
3. Overseeing financial performance.

To fulfil our functions the governors meet twice-termly, receiving the agenda in advance and reading the documentation ahead of the meeting. To spread the load we have committees that meet twice termly and report back to the full Governing Board at its next meeting. These committees are; Steering, which is attended by the chairs of the following committees, plus the Chair and Vice-Chair of Governors and Headteacher; Finance and Premises; Ethos; Personnel & Communications.

The schools' website has further information on our role and what we do under 'Our School Communities' > 'Governors'. [Bentley CEVC & Copdock Primary Federation: Governors \(bentleycopdock.co.uk\)](http://bentleycopdock.co.uk)

The Governing Board includes:

<b>Chair of Governors, Simon Hurst</b> Co-opted governor, Chair – Steering & F&P.		<b>Joanne Austin</b> , Executive Headteacher	
<b>Vice Chair of Governors: Laurie Page</b> Co-opted governor, IT		<b>Heidi Cross</b> , Staff governor	

<p><b>Sheri Breeze</b>, Co-opted governor</p>		<p><b>Peter Drew</b>, Co-opted governor. Named Safeguarding Governor, Chair P&amp;C</p>	
<p><b>Louisa Brennan</b>, Parent governor, SEN governor</p>		<p><b>Gemma Mark</b>, Parent governor</p>	
<p><b>Jane Day</b>, Foundation governor</p>		<p><b>Rev. Don Mehan</b>, Foundation governor, Chair - Ethos</p>	
<p><b>Ken Marrable</b>, Co-opted governor</p>		<p><b>Wayne McIntosh</b>, Local Authority governor</p>	