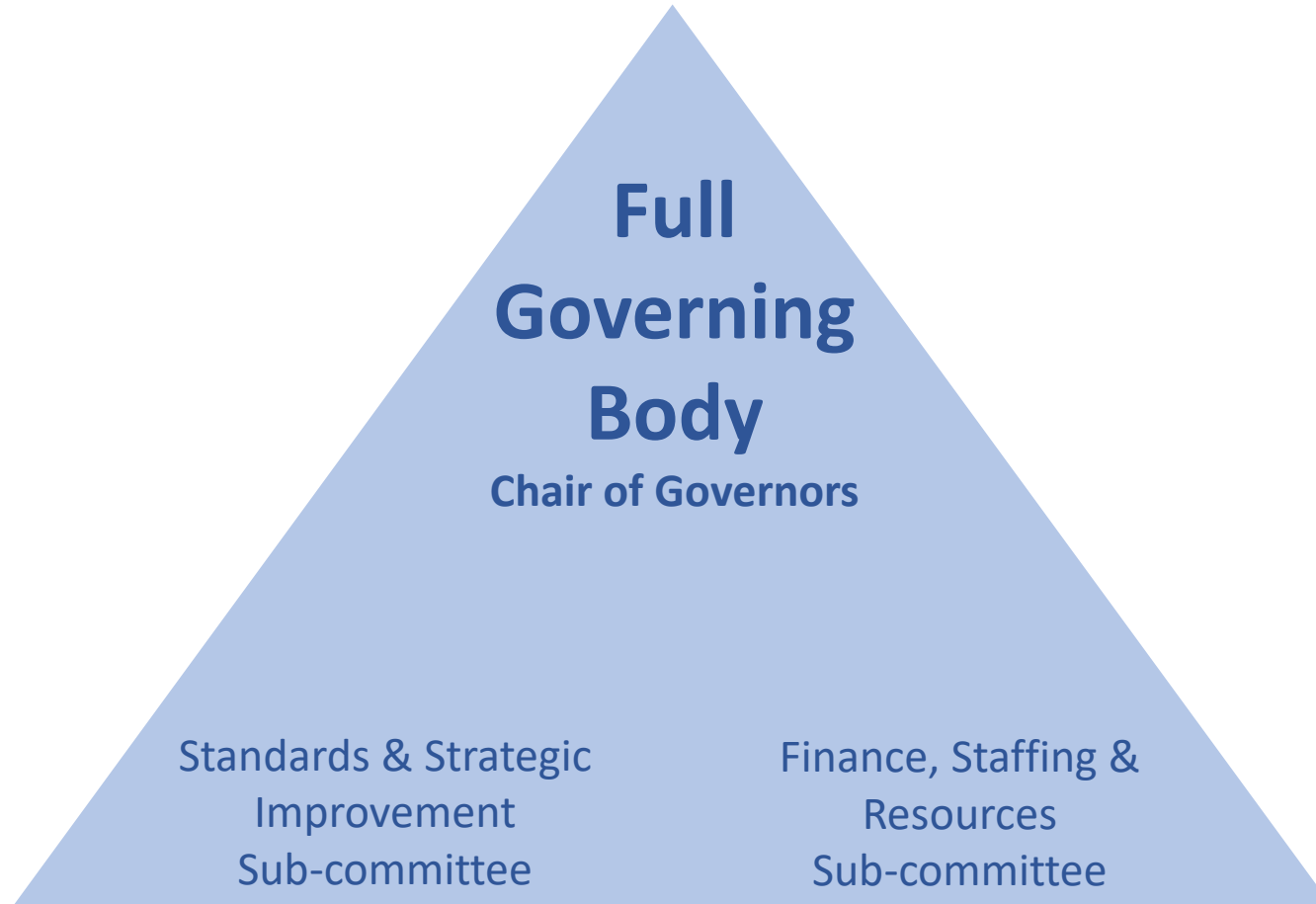


St Oswald's CE Primary School Governors

Key Governor committees



Other committees include Headteacher Performance Management, Pay, Pay Appeals, SFVS and ad-hoc working groups as and when needed

Chair of Governors



Claire Sinclair

Parent Governor (Chair of Governors)

I have been a governor at St Oswald's since September 2017 and Chair of Governors since September 2019. I originally joined the governing body because I was new to York and with my eldest child having recently joined Reception, I wanted to get to know the school better and use some of my experience to provide whatever support I could. I have really enjoyed forging a good working relationship with the school and being a governor is a role that I find interesting and rewarding.

During my time on the governing body, we have seen a lot of change. I led the recruitment process and panel that appointed our current headteacher and I was also involved in the recruitment of the previous headteacher. I have supported the school during two Ofsted inspections and took part in the decision to withdraw from the process towards academisation of the school. During my first year as Chair of Governors the Covid-19 pandemic struck and during this period I adopted a hands-on, pragmatic approach to supporting the school as needed during an uncertain and turbulent period. I am now focussed on supporting the new school leadership team and working towards the school expansion project.

I am currently a lecturer at The School for Business and Society at The University of York and prior to that I spent 15 years working in management consulting.

If there's anything you would like to chat about in relation to governor matters, I am often in the school playground or contactable via the school office. And finally, we are always looking for new people to join the governing body, so if you would like to find out more about how you might be able to help, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Chairs of Sub-Committees

Shirley Priestley

Co-opted Governor (Vice Chair & Chair of Finance, Staffing & Resources)

I have been a governor at St Oswald's since 2014 when my eldest child was in KS1, and both my children have now moved up to Fulford. Originally appointed as a co-opted governor due to having a finance background I have been delighted to be able to continue supporting the school as it evolves for the future.

I am a portfolio Finance Director and as a finance professional find the challenges of managing budgets and delivering education really very interesting. Since becoming a governor, we have seen some exciting changes at St Oswald's and there are more to come with the future expansion plans. I continue to aim to make a positive contribution to the governance within school along with my fellow governors.



Louise Toal

Parent Governor (Chair of Standards)

I am Managing Director of an App Development Company in York and have a background in Legal Accounts and Operations Management.

I have a son that attends St Oswald's School and am grateful to be able to contribute to the school and community and offer my support.

Staff Governors



James Barker

Associate Governor (Deputy Head Teacher)

I joined St. Oswald's CE Primary School in September 2023 as Deputy Head Teacher, having gained over 10 years of experience in schools in South Yorkshire.

Having recently started, I wanted to gain a good understanding of the school and be able to join the Governing Body in supporting the school community. Having previously worked in a different Governing Body, I was excited to make the request to become an associate governor.

I hope as a governor, I can support the school staff and community and use my experience to fulfil the role to the best of my ability.

Katy Haxby
Staff (Year 3/4 Team Leader)



I am Phase Leader for Y3/4 and have worked as a teacher at St Oswald's since 2020.

My three children all happily attended St Oswald's Primary and I became a Parent Governor when my eldest child started in Reception. I continued this role until my youngest child left Y6, at which point I too stepped down and left my role of Chair of Governors.

I became a Staff Governor in September 2022. My role is to be a representative of the staff of St Oswald's, bringing a staff viewpoint and perspective to discussion and debate. I hope my professional experience and knowledge will allow me to fulfil this role to the best of my ability.



Tom Lloyd

Staff (Year 3/4 Teacher)

I have been a teacher at St Oswald's since 2021 and an Associate Governor since September 2022. I wanted to gain a better understanding of how the school was governed and have the chance to make a positive contribution to both the children and members of staff throughout the school.

As part of my Associate Governor role, I am also the Pupil Premium Link Governor. I am extremely passionate about ensuring all children, independent of their background, have an equal opportunity to flourish in all areas of their development.

Volunteer Governors



Revd Canon Sue Sheriff
Foundation Ex-Officio

I am currently the vicar of St Oswald's Church, Fulford.

I have been a vicar for more than 35 years and working with the local schools has always been a high spot of my ministry. I am committed to supporting schools in providing an education for all children and a good way of doing this is by being a school governor. I obviously have a particular interest in religious education and helping children of all faiths and none to discover principles to take with them into the whole of their life.

I really enjoy leading collective worship with and for the pupils of St Oswald's School and am delighted by their enthusiasm, warmth, sense of humour and understanding.

I am delighted to have joined the governing board as a parent governor in the summer of 2023. I have two children at St Oswald's and thought this would be a great opportunity to become more involved with the school.

I am a researcher at the University of York and, as such, enjoy looking at data - something schools produce lots of and I'm interested to see how this data is interpreted and applied to educational outcomes.

Katya Krieger-Redwood
Parent Governor



Volunteer Governors



Pete Mather

LA Appointed Governor

Having been based in Higher Education for over 20 years I am keen to see individuals properly equipped to make the most of their lives through education. So when I went to a presentation by an organisation called Governors for Schools, I asked how I could give back. It turned out that my local Primary School, St Oswald's, had a vacancy.

I have worked in IT for most of my life and have lots of experience which can hopefully be useful as a school governor. My current role at the University of York also involves data protection and supporting health research.

As a parent to two autistic children, I have a particular interest in SEND at the school, and how children can thrive when given the right support.

Helen Rodbourn
Co-opted Governor



I have been a governor since the autumn of 2013. I had just retired and was approached by the then Chair of Governors to see if I would be interested in becoming a governor at St. Oswald's.

I had spent my career in primary schools, firstly as a teacher and then a head teacher for over 20 years, and finally had some spare time to do the things I enjoy such as travelling, reading, listening to music and gardening. However, I couldn't turn down the opportunity to continue my involvement in education and I have been delighted to become part of this vibrant, caring and successful school.

I was joint chair of governors from September 2015 to 2019 and I hope that my knowledge and experience will be useful in supporting the head teacher and her staff to steer a course through all the challenges and changes that face the education sector.

Volunteer Governors



Abbi Usher

Co-opted Governor

I resigned from my full-time teaching role at St Oswald's in July 2021 when I moved house with my family. I currently run a bed and breakfast and keep myself busy on our smallholding, growing vegetables, looking after a few animals and spending time with my husband and two grown up daughters.

I was invited to join the school's governing body this year and am delighted to be able to continue to be part of the St Oswald's community. The school, its staff and pupils will always hold a very special place in my heart and I am enjoying working with the other governors to help ensure that St Oswald's continues to provide the best possible experience for all of its families and staff.

There is a lot to learn as a new governor. I have already completed quite a few training courses to get to grips with my role as safeguarding governor. It feels good to be acquiring new skills and knowledge and I'm finding it really interesting to gain a different perspective on how the school is run.

Andy Wilcock
Co-opted Governor

I have been a parent governor for 4 years at Fulford where I sit as Vice Chair and I am just coming to the end of my term so when I was approached about a vacancy at St Oswalds I jumped at the opportunity as my daughter is an ex pupil.

I have a wealth of experience in Finance/resources and H&S within schools which I am hoping the St Oswalds board can benefit from.

I live locally and understand the responsibility of ensuring our children get the best possible education.

My "real" job is in Procurement and Property which I hope will bring in a different perspective allowing the school to get better deals and performance from current suppliers.



Volunteer Governors



Andrew Wilson
Co-Opted Governor

After nine years, working as an R&D chemist, I spent the next 30 years teaching chemistry and geology in a sixth form college. During my teaching career I was the teacher governor for several years.

I retired from teaching in 2011 and moved to York in 2012 where I prior to Covid I worked part time at the Yorkshire Museum and I continue to volunteer one day a week at the National Railway Museum.

I am keen to use my experience and time to help St Oswald's school continue to provide their pupils with a stimulating and enjoyable educational experience.