

Governor Biographies

Maggie Drummond	<p>Staff governor</p> <p>Maggie is a Key stage 2 teacher at St Nicholas, with a wide range of experience working with children with SEN of in all phases. She has worked at Carew Manor, Bensham Manor and other specialist settings, as well as working with Mencap and special needs sports charities in the community.</p>
Emma Bowell	<p>Co-opted Governor</p> <p>Emma currently works at the Department for Education, focusing primarily on system leadership. She has previously worked for a special independent school for children with ASD, and for an international examinations board. She graduated from her Masters degree in Education Policy and Management in 2016. Emma has a younger sibling with ASD and is committed to ensuring that all children with special educational needs and disabilities can access a high-quality education that enables them to reach their full potential.</p>
Louisa Middleweek	<p>Louisa is the parent of a child in Year 3, and has another child attending a local mainstream Primary school. She has a passionate desire to help achieve the best possible schooling experience for all children so they can lead a happy and healthy life.</p> <p>Louisa currently works as a business manager with a local company, working with large county councils, chairing community meetings and liaising with MPs and local councils. Louisa has also worked as an area manager for a company in South London with a large number of franchises, working across both public, private and community sectors.</p>
Kim Doolan	<p>Kim Doolan is a parent Governor with a child in Key Stage 1 at St Nicolas who has moderate learning needs and a diagnosis of ASD.</p> <p>Initially trained in Interior Textile Design, Kim's professional background is within education, working as a qualified secondary Art, Design and Textiles teacher across Surrey, Southwark and Kent. Within this role, she worked with many SEN and statemented children as well as looked after young people.</p> <p>After spending 6 years teaching, Kim left the schools system to work within the voluntary sector. Her most recent role for a sight loss charity in Surrey included working with children with physical and learning disabilities and their families, running a recreation and support service. Through this she has also worked alongside the special needs teams within Local Authority.</p> <p>As well as professional experience, Kim has been involved as a parent with many special needs support services in Croydon and has a passion for supporting fellow parents of special needs children. In her spare time, Kim runs art workshops for disability charities on a voluntary basis and enjoys finding new exciting places to go with her son for fun days out.</p>

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Nick Dry	<p>Headteacher and Governor</p> <p>Nick has been Head teacher at St Nicholas since January 2012 and was formally Head teacher at a Special School in West Sussex. He has also worked as an SEN Adviser in Brighton and Hove and taught in mainstream and Special schools across London. Nick started his career in Secondary education but after working with SEN pupils in mainstream developed a passion for special needs, and has worked in Primary special education for over 20 years.</p>
Elizabeth Goodridge	<p><i>Elizabeth</i> has been the Assistant Priest at the Parish Church of St Barnabas, Purley for seven years now <i>knows the</i> community around the school well. In her ministry she meets a variety of people and enjoys getting to know them, discovering what their joys and challenges are.</p> <p>Her profession before becoming a priest was in Human Resources, in particular Learning and Development, within the public sector where she was responsible for the development programmes for leadership, managing people, recruitment and equal opportunities.</p> <p>When not ministering, Elizabeth loves gardening, reading and researching her family tree.</p> <p>Elizabeth is passionate about every child having the opportunity to grow and develop to reach their full potential. Special education interests her in particular because the whole of each child's individual needs requires particular attention in order for them to grow in confidence and ability. She also believes that building strong links between school and community really helps towards bringing the community together both within the school and outside.</p> <p>Elizabeth was delighted to be asked to become a governor because supporting the needs of some of the most vulnerable children in the community lies close to her heart.</p>
Ann Shore	<p>Co-opted Governor</p> <p>Ann has been an enthusiastic governor at St Nicholas since 2002 and is currently the Finance governor.</p> <p>Ann is an astronomy graduate and qualified accountant who worked for many years in the public sector including education. She then followed up her passion for gardening and studied garden design which she practised alongside working in a primary school, teaching children to grow vegetables. She still gardens with them on a voluntary basis at her allotment.</p>
Andrew Rendle	<p>Andrew is a co-opted governor but also has a child at St Nicholas and another at the Enhanced Learning Provision at Castle Hill. Between 2014 and 2018 Andrew was a local councillor in Croydon where he served as Deputy Cabinet Member for Families, Health and Adult Social Care, he also sat on The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and the Corporate Parenting Board which is a body to help Croydon's looked after children.</p> <p>Andrew was the council's Champion for Autism where he worked with</p>

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	<p>cabinet members and other stakeholders such as the NHS and police to push autism friendly policies within Croydon, he also chaired Croydon's Autism Partnership Board. Andrew held autism training events for Crystal Palace FC, The Council and charities to raise awareness and understanding. He also championed and funded autism events in Croydon including an exciting project raising awareness amongst mainstream primary school children & staff.</p> <p>Andrew works in TV and has also worked for MPs in their constituencies and Westminster. He has previously served as a parent governor at Ryelands and brings great experience to our school.</p>
Bernie Tetchner	<p>Bernie has taught in special schools in London for nearly all of her working life. Whilst teaching in one of the schools she was seconded to UCL and studied The Education and Psychology of Children with Special Needs. This advanced diploma course also entailed visiting special schools in Holland. She continued to study for diplomas in Autism and Specific Learning Difficulties and was awarded her Masters Degree which focussed on Gender in Education, Assessment and Technology.</p> <p>Bernie has held senior management positions in her last four schools. She worked closely with the Senior Management Team and governors of the mainstream primary school as the Centre for Autism was integrated within the mainstream primary school. She also worked closely with the Centre for Educational Management at Durham University and contributed a chapter to one of their published books. Early in her teaching career she was involved in working with ILEA Centre for English and contributed to two books on Gender in Education.</p> <p>Since retiring Bernie is proud to have become a governor for the last six years at St Nicholas, she is still just as passionate about the education of children with special needs as when teaching. In her opinion the best for all children is paramount.</p>
Amanda Trevitt	<p>Chair of Governors</p> <p>Amanda is very proud to say that she has been involved with St Nicholas school for the past 20 years. The past 7 of them as Chair. She will always remember her very first visit and was completely blown away by the very high standards and happy atmosphere.</p> <p>Her working background began in retail, going onto the tourist industry. The past 30 years have been spent in a variety of roles within the airline industry. Amanda has held senior roles covering, Human Resources, Performance Management, Health and Safety and Finance. In addition, they had to adopt most of the policies and procedures that are present in schools today.</p> <p>Amanda understands how important it is to ensure that people are kept</p>

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	<p>safe and secure.</p> <p>She is also very keen to continue to support our Senior Management Team, (along with other fellow governors) to continue their good work in maintaining and improving our fine school.</p> <p>Her outside interests include visiting craft fairs, photography, attending air shows and travelling on steam trains.</p>
Kemi Oweye	<p>Kemi is a married mother to 2 young children and lived in Purley since 2013. She is an amateur sports enthusiastic, taking part in 5k, 10k, half-marathons and sprint triathlons. She also enjoys cooking, reading and experimenting with new room layouts at home.</p> <p>Kemi worked full time for Wilmott Dixon as a Design Manager, where she managed the design of buildings across key sectors for clients. This involved managing multidisciplinary teams of consultants, specialists, supply chain providers and liaising with statutory bodies proactively to achieve buildable and sustainable design solutions to budget.</p> <p>Kemi came to know St Nicholas School through her role as lead design manager for the new building project from 2017-April 2019.</p> <p>Kemi’s interest in Education began in 2008 when she started working as Schools Design manager with the Building schools for the future framework. She worked on 5 secondary Schools - Oaklands Secondary School, Phoenix School (SEN), Central Foundation Girls School and St Michaels.</p> <p>Kemi is passionate about supporting children, whether they have special educational needs or not.</p> <p>She believes everybody can be taught to communicate their wants and needs and to learn. When she was invited to apply to become a Governor, she was excited about the prospect of better understanding how Schools are run and contributing to helping them improve and get better. With the economy and funding as it is, Kemi is keen to help the children be the best they can be.</p>