



### Welcome

The Governors of the school would like to warmly welcome you all back to the new school year. Hello to all of our new families. We are delighted that you have chosen to join our school community.

### Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting and following the schools new procedures that have been introduced this term to keep our school community as safe as possible during these unusual times with the Coronavirus.

# Meet the Governors

## James Armstrong ( Chair of Governors)

I joined the Governing Board in June 2018 and was privileged to be elected Chair in September of that year and have held the post since.

I am retired having spent 42 years, in Secondary Education starting as a classroom teacher. Through numerous roles and positions across the years I was Deputy Head for my last 11 years prior to retiring.

Having retired I became an Educational Consultant as I decided retirement was not for me! I worked mainly in the Alternative Education field to advise on raising standards of Education and Behaviour. I continued this for 2 years before further partial retirement.

I have been an Executive Member of a Teachers' Professional Association and have previously led negotiations on various matters with MK Local Authority.

Currently I am a Senior Examiner in 'A' level Mathematics for one of the Examining Boards and have been for the last 7 years although I have been involved in examining for over 40 years.

Prior to the Governing Board of Barleyhurst Park I have had governor experience for over 30 years. I spent some time as a governor of Rickley School and have been Chair of Governors of an Academy as well as Chair of an Educational Trust .

Having been involved in Secondary Education all my life it is refreshing to involve myself in a Primary School particularly as I have grandchildren of primary age.

I try to use my wealth of Educational Knowledge and vast experience for the pupils of this lovely school.

## Mrs Smith (Headteacher)

I took up the position of Headteacher at Barleyhurst Park in 2010. I had been a Deputy Head in a larger school in Aylesbury, but after having my second child I thought I needed a new challenge nearer to where I lived. I am thoroughly committed and passionate about giving children the best possible start to their education by providing a rich and varied learning experience through high quality teaching and a stimulating program of extracurricular activities and visits. Both of my children have been through Barleyhurst Park Primary and I am immensely proud of the young men they are becoming and the work the staff at the school do.

There have been many challenges during my teaching career but nothing matches the challenges we continue to face through this pandemic. I work closely with the Chair of Governors and the Governing Board.

### **Claire Davidson** Parent Governor

My name is Claire Davidson and I am a parent governor. I joined the governing board in October 2018. The main reason I volunteered to be a parent governor is my commitment to, and belief in, the importance of high-quality education for all children. With my background in teaching, I am truly passionate about education and believe that all children should be given the skills and knowledge to enable them to reach their full potential. I am also particularly passionate about early literacy skills enabling all children to become fluent readers and writers and to encourage a life long love of books, I have previously been a SENDCO and have qualifications at Masters level and this is a particular area of interest for me. I am thoroughly enjoying this role and the challenges it brings. I have completed a variety of training as well as a number of visits into school to enhance and further my understanding of how Barleyhurst Park is striving to achieve the best for all the pupils. Prior to the Covid restrictions I visited school a number of times to see all classes in action, having regular meetings to look at data and policies and also accompanying school trips. I alongside my fellow governors will continue to do this virtually now. I am enjoying working alongside the other Governors and the senior leadership team to help ensure that Barleyhurst park is continually working towards its vision.

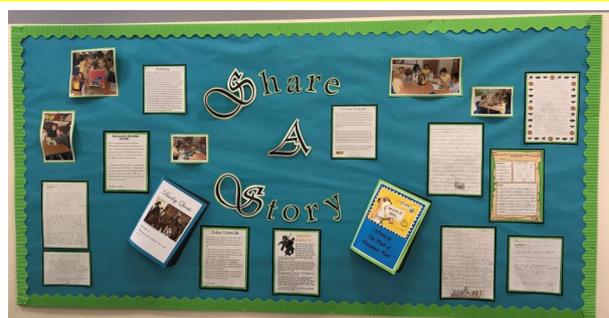
### **Jo Dyer**, Parent Governor

I am Jo Dyer, one of your parent governors. Samuel is in Year 6 and my third child to attend Barleyhurst Park - I have been a parent here since it opened and know my children have been nurtured and supported well, that is why I volunteered in May 2018 to join the Governing Board and give something back to the school. As well as being a mum to 3, I work full time at The Open University as the Head of the University Secretary's Office. My experience at work includes extensive staff, change and project management and the skills I have developed can be transferred to the Governing Board to both support and challenge the Leadership Team in their decision making and strategic direction. I have a Master in Education degree which covered the subjects of child development, identity and inclusion. The right to an education that meets the needs of individuals is crucial if all children are to reach their full potential and it is vital that the Governing Board has a good oversight of how this is delivered in practice. I aim to be an advocate for all so that Barleyhurst Park can be a safe and supportive place for children to explore, grow and learn and for all staff to deliver a contribution that is recognised and valued. I am delighted to work with such committed colleagues on the Governing Board to support the school in all it does.

### **Charmaine Smith** Co-opted Governor

My name is Charmaine and I am a mother of two boys both within Barleyhurst Park Primary. I have been a Governor since September 2019 and have accompanied school trips and helped with several school events. My previous employment has been in recruitment, managing company contracts for staffing requirements. I have also spent 3 years assisting a childminder at their setting looking after children of different ages from newborns through to teenagers.

As both of my children are in full time education, I wanted to use my time to help the school. I am still learning the ins and outs of a role as a Governor but I'm glad I stepped forward to assist the school in providing a safe and fun learning environment for our children.



### **Mr Passmore** Associate Governor

My Name is Mr Passmore and I am the Deputy Headteacher and an associate governor. As an associate governor I do not have a vote, nor do I have a specific governor area in which I lead. My focus is in presenting data and information to the rest of the governing board and to question and analyse documents and policies which are brought forward.

Associate governors are often part of a governing board because they offer particular skills or expertise; I believe that my years in education have given, and continue to give, me a keen awareness of what a school needs in order to grow and to build upon its successes. My hope is that I use this understanding both in day job, but also through each Governors' meeting where a variety of topics are discussed and key decisions are made.

Initially I became an associate governor because I wanted to learn more about the finances of a school and how these key decisions fed into the day-to-day workings within the school, but as I continue to be a part of the governing board, I find it interesting and engaging to be a part of the process which allows the school to move from strength to strength.

### **Mrs Ayres** Staff Governor

I was an associate governor at my previous school and found it both insightful and useful to be exposed to some of the hidden complexities of school life. I volunteered to be a staff governor at Barleyhurst Park, when a position became available, because I felt I could offer some experience from previous schools and roles, as well as provide a staff perspective and point of view when needed.

### **Governor Vacancies**

We currently have two vacancies on our board A LA governor and a co-opted Governor which we hope to fill soon. If you know of anyone who is interested please email the school office who will pass the information to our Chair of Governors

### **Governor roles**

**Chair:** J Armstrong

**Chair of teaching, learning and Standards:** C Davidson

**Sports premium Governor:** C Smith

**Assessment Governor:** C Davidson

**Curriculum Governors** J Armstrong & C Davidson

**Development Governor:** J Armstrong

**GDPR Governor :** J Dyer

**Mental Health Governors:** K Ayres & C Thomas

**Vice Chair:** C Davidson

**Chair of finance and staffing.** J Dyer & C Smith

**Pupil Premium Governor:** J Dyer

**Safeguarding Governors:** J Dyer & C Smith

**SEND Governors:** C Smith & J Dyer

**Early Years Governors:** C Davidson and C Thomas

**Health and Safety Governors:** K Ayres & C Thomas



Thank you to the school for us providing with some photos of the lovely displays that are in school.