

Tina Critchley, Chair of Governors at Parrenthorn (Co-opted)

Having been a parent governor at Butterstile primary, I continued in that role once my children moved to Parrenthorn. My 3 sons who started here in 1989 and 1991(twins), were all very happy at Parrenthorn and achieved excellent academic and personal foundations before moving on to 6th Form College and university. During that time I was also actively involved in fundraising for the PTA, float building for the Carnival and helping out as needed after our devastating fire. My background is in health, having trained as a Paediatric and Adult nurse and worked for many years in the NHS at Great Ormond St Children's Hospital, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and Community nursing in Bury as a School Nurse. I am now retired but this has given me knowledge and experience of working with children and their families along with a keen interest in all aspects of preventative measures and health promotion that can improve the health and well-being of all our pupils. I became Chair of the Governing body in September 2015. I am also a member of the two sub committees, Resources and Curriculum & Pastoral, the Ofsted Preparation Group as well as representing Parrenthorn on Bury Governor's Association. My aim is to lead our Governing body as a team, working together to support all staff, and challenge and question when necessary. We set structures in place that will enable all our pupils to become healthy, well rounded and successful young people.

Diana Dawson – Vice Chair of Governors (Co-opted)

I have been a governor at Parrenthorn High School for 14 years. My background is within Education and Children's Social Care working within a local authority. I am very passionate about education and I am very grateful that my own children enjoyed a positive secondary education experience at Parrenthorn High School which helped prepare them for adult life. I want all pupils at the school to enjoy that same experience whilst achieving their full potential. Currently I am Vice Chair of the Governing Body, Chair of the Academic and Pastoral Sub Committee and a member of the School Improvement Group/Ofsted Group. I am very proud to be a member of the Governing Body working closely with governors, the Headteacher and staff. To encourage, support and challenge the school is an important part of the Governing Body's duties which is achieved by working in partnership with staff, pupils, parents and other partner agencies which support the school. To ensure we have an accurate understanding of the school's effectiveness the Governing Body listens to the views of the pupils, parents and all staff which contributes to school improvement and pupil progress. Being a school governor is a voluntary role and one that I take very seriously to ensure all pupils and staff are safe, valued and respected.

Rachel Green, Parent Governor

I am a new Parent Governor at Parrenthorn and this is the first time that I have ever undertaken such a role. I put myself forward for the position as I wanted to make sure that the voice of parents is heard when important decisions are made in relation to the school and its future. I have a son who is currently in Year 10 - I had no real knowledge of the school prior to him starting in Year 7 but very quickly came to realise the value and reputation that the school has amongst local parents. I am proud to be involved with the school and hope to play a part in ensuring it goes from strength to strength under its new leadership team. I am a mental health nurse by background and have worked in the NHS for a total of twenty-seven years. I currently work in a local mental health trust and have recently had a change of role which means I now have some involvement in mental health services for children and adolescents. I am very interested in how the school works alongside parents to promote and maintain the health and wellbeing of all students.

Vivien Finney, (Co-opted) Governor

My association with Parrenthorn High School goes back many years, and my involvement initially was with the Parents' Association (PHSS). I was part of the group establishing the Parent Partnership and my three children all had happy and successful careers at the school, their enrolments spanning the years 1988 to 2005. I am a retired lecturer in English Language, French and Teacher Education and have enjoyed a lifelong interest in educational philosophy and practice. I now enjoy writing and reading poetry and help to organise Poets and Players events at the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester. I have been a Governor at the school since 2012 and am delighted to have renewed my connection here. My particular interest is with the Literacy programme and Governor development but I am also pleased and proud to support the staff and pupils in their endeavours to maintain and improve excellence in all aspects of welfare and progress. I feel that the partnership between the Governors and all members of the school community is increasingly positive and we are working enthusiastically towards a closer understanding and appreciation of the contribution we can all make through working together. I am a member of the Pastoral and Curriculum Group and the preparation for Ofsted Group.

Sandra Hardman (Co-opted) Governor

I have been working at Parrenthorn High School since 1998 and a few years ago, became support staff governor. I have since become a co-opted governor. My background experience in school has been special needs, mostly working with young people with social, emotional and mental health. I am the Inclusion Manager and pupils spend time working in the inclusion room with me, or other members of staff, completing classwork or individual programmes. I am proud to be a staff member of Parrenthorn, but also being involved with the wonderful governors in our community, who work very hard on behalf of the school, staff, pupils, parents and the community.

Cllr Alan Quinn JP (Co-opted) Governor

Lives in Prestwich. Labour councillor for Sedgely Ward, currently cabinet member for the environment. Works as a skilled aircraft fitter for BAE Systems on F-35. Married to Debbie, 4 children. Why am I a Governor? A good education is a birth right for everyone not just the privileged few or those who can afford it. Education can be a ladder out of poverty, it can help you become a great musician, scientist, academic or engineer. All four of my kids went to Parrenthorn and had a great education. I want the same for every kid who walks into this school no matter what their ability or background

Andrea Simpson Local Authority Governor

I became a LEA Governor at Parrenthorn a little over 4 years ago, but have had a relationship with the school for the past 8 years, my Step Daughter and Son have both attended Parrenthorn and I have always found it to be an excellent inclusive school which not only offers a high quality of education but also offers excellent pastoral care to the pupils. I am link Governor for Safeguarding along with Mrs Waywell. The safety of our children is paramount to every parent and Parrenthorn is fully aware of its duties and responsibilities in safeguarding the pupils. I have been a Practice Manager in Salford for the last 20 years and also have a role in the Clinical Commissioning Group as Neighbourhood Practice Manager Lead. I was until recently a Councillor in Sedgely. I am proud to be involved in the Governing Body and proud of the pupils and their achievements at Parrenthorn it's a great High School with a good holistic approach to the Pupils and education.

Phil Walthall, Community Governor

My association with Parrenthorn goes back to 1993, when the first of my two children started in year 7. I am delighted to say that both my son and my daughter made excellent progress at the school and both went on to obtain good degrees at university. I am an accountant by profession and for the last 14 years, prior to retirement, was employed as the Finance Manager for the European office of a Japanese company, based in Stockport. I became a governor approximately 20 years ago, initially as a parent governor and subsequently as a co-opted / community governor. I have, hopefully, been able to use my financial expertise to help the school as over the years, more and more financial and budgetary responsibility has been passed to schools direct control. I am the chair of the Resources Committee and a member of the Preparation for Ofsted Group. In addition to any help I have been able to provide on financial matters, I have always tried to be supportive to staff and particularly the young people who attend Parrenthorn, who we all hope will make outstanding progress during their time with us.

Andrew Goodlad - Staff Governor

I trained as a secondary teacher of History in West Sussex under the auspices of the internationally renowned historian John Fines, completing my training at Chichester High School for boys. From there, I took up my first full time post with the Inner London Teaching Authority, teaching at the Haberdasher Aske's Hatcham Girls' School where I taught history across the 11-18 age range up to Oxbridge entry. I worked in London from 1987 through to 1991 before leaving to return to the north west in order to take up the position of Head of History at Parrenthorn. As well as fulfilling this role over the past 26 years I have also been an Assistant Head of Year which I did for a few years before being promoted to Head of Year, a demanding but enjoyable role which I carried out for some 6 years before being promoted again to Citizenship Co-ordinator. With a reshuffle in the staffing structure I also found myself placed into the role of PSHE Co-ordinator as well, which I have been doing for several years. To help promote this I also take responsibility for running the School Council. Alongside my role as Head of History I have also done some consultancy work for educational publishers such as Pearson and Folens and was also Bury LEA's rep for working with what is now Ofqual, in London. I have always supported extra curricular activities and for the past 26 years have taken one of the school's football teams. I have participated in many school holidays alongside Mr Perry and for the past 9 years have taken responsibility for leading the Easter break school holiday. My enjoyment at Parrenthorn comes from working alongside some excellent colleagues who always put the children first and help to foster a superb pastoral ethos, for which the school is rightly acknowledged and which is wholeheartedly supported by the governors.

Mark Littler- Co-opted Governor

I became a Co-opted Governor of Parrenthorn High School in February 2017. My association with our school goes back to 2000 when the eldest of my three children first attended. My younger two children followed, with the youngest leaving in 2010. During those ten years, I learned about the ethos of Parrenthorn, its inclusivity and the nurturing environment it gives our children at the most important time of their young lives. I supported my children through Sixth Form College and University study to their graduations and I am now able to help children following their footsteps. I bring to the Governing Body, thirty years of service and experience with Greater Manchester Police. I retired from there in 2015. We face a great challenge over the coming years, with budgets being stretched and the education we provide being tested. I am determined to support our children through these challenging times and give them their enduring right to excellent education and life skill development.

Alison Burns – Co-opted Governor

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as a governor at Parrenthorn from early 2016. I believe passionately that every individual should have every opportunity to fulfil their potential – and that children from any background should have an equal chance to flourish. I have spent my working life supporting people who face considerable challenges - tackling problems connected with poverty, mental ill health, homelessness, domestic abuse, discrimination and educational disadvantage. I have worked in senior management positions with charities including Women's Aid, Shelter and Teach First; and as a freelance consultant with local and national government and housing organisations.

I currently work with Mind - the mental health charity – supporting local Mind organisations to overcome management and governance problems, and also as joint Chief Executive of a national organisation dedicated to supporting equality & diversity. I wanted to use this experience to support Parrenthorn in its development and continuous improvement to benefit all pupils; to support parents as full partners in our school, and to ensure that pupils facing particular challenges have an equal chance to aspire and achieve. I was really pleased to be part of the governor group that recruited Mr Bell and Mrs Waywell, and aim to give all the staff my full support in upholding and developing the excellent standards at Parrenthorn, as we strive to ensure the best possible education and support for all our pupils.

Tim Lee – Parent Governor

I studied at Lincoln College of Art where I gained a Diploma in Visual Communications, I have lived in Prestwich for over 16 years and been a parent at Parrenthorn High School for six years, my wife is a past pupil and all our 3 children have passed through or are currently studying at the school. These years have given me an excellent perspective and insight into the school and its development. For the past four years I have been a member of the Governing Body at Park View Primary School, chairing several committees and playing an active role in the continued success of the school. I have also been responsible for monitoring Health and Safety at the school and have undergone extensive training enabling me to build on these roles.

I am a past Chair of Park View PTA, an organisation which plays a pivotal role in school life and am proud to have been an active member for the last 13 years. I work for a leading National Housing Trust and also serve as a member of their Safety and Health Executive panel. I passionately believe in the importance of a strong parental voice in School Governance, and the development of strong links within the wider community. I believe it is essential that parents are involved in all aspects of school life and that together we can build an experience that our children will cherish as they develop and grow.

Melanie Pitt – Parent Governor

I have twin daughters in Year 9. I have been impressed by the care and support, they have received since starting at Parrenthorn because of its excellent staff. I believe passionately that every child should be given the opportunity to have success in their lives, however they may measure that success. I have spent my professional life working within the Social Care field primarily with children and young people, but also teaching adult literacy, working within Adult Mental Health Services and briefly within services for children with disabilities. I qualified as a Social Worker in 1989. Currently, I am a Manager for a local Council working within Safeguarding and Child Protection and have a strong interest in ensuring pupils are safe and well cared for in school. I'm keen to ensure they can thrive in a nurturing environment and that as far as possible learning is fun. The voice of young people is so important when shaping services for them and meeting their needs.

Up until very recently and for several years, I acted as Safeguarding link Governor at a successful local Primary School and gained lots of relevant skills, but am excited now to act as a Governor within the secondary arena. I'm a member of the Governors' support network and have links with other Governors within the area. I'm friendly, measured and approachable, and eager to work alongside staff and pupils alike.

Sarah Molloy – Co-opted Governor

I became a Co-opted Governor Parrenthorn High School in October 2017, and this is the first time I've ever done such a role. As a relatively recent school leaver myself, I remember all too well what high school was like and the impact that the things I learnt then and the decisions I made had on what I went on to do next. Going on to study French and Spanish at Oxford University, I'm keenly aware of the relative lack of Northern state-education young people going to Oxbridge or other Russell Group universities, and I'm passionate about helping young people to dream big and ensuring they have access to the advice and support they need to make the next step after school. I graduated in 2014 and I joined Openreach, the network arm of the BT Group – some of you may be thinking what's a languages graduate doing working in telecoms engineering? I love the variety offered by big business working with the very newest technology (my team work on the Fibre to the Premise rollout), and it's testament to the transferable skills I learnt at school and university that I get to be part of it. Working as part of a large organisation that recruits hundreds of young people each year through apprenticeships, I get an insight into some of the gaps that our education system can suffer from, but I can see already that Parrenthorn takes all aspects of a child's education seriously meaning that they leave the school well-rounded and equipped for what comes next. I decided to become a governor because I want to give back to the area where I live, and where better to invest my time than in the next generation. I'm really looking forward learning more about the school and being able to share my own experiences with the governing body.

Ian Clements – Co-opted Governor

My association with Bury began in 1984, when I joined the LEA as a Youth Worker. I was then seconded to the position of Education Adviser for Drug and Alcohol Education, which involved me working with Primary and Secondary Schools throughout the borough, as part of a national drive to encourage schools and colleges to increase drug education and prevention. This is where I first had contact with Parrenthorn School. I met with the then Headteacher, Mr Francis and his Deputy, Ms Darlington and was immediately impressed by the welcoming, inclusive and caring ethos within the school. I continued to work with staff and also students, on a borough wide, Peer Education project. This was in partnership with the Bury Police Division. During this time a colleague and I started Early Break, which is a substance misuse service for young people.

I left Bury in 1999 and joined the Home office Drugs Strategy Directorate, eventually retiring in 2006 as the Head of Young People's policy for the National Drug Strategy. Since retiring I have been a Non-executive Director at East Lancashire PCT and a School Governor at a High School in Burnley. This I enjoyed immensely and really felt that I was supporting the staff, students and parents, at the school. I moved back into Bury last year and applied for School Governorship. I was delighted when contacted by the Chair of Governors at Parrenthorn and invited to become a Governor.

Lee Savage – Parent Governor

I am a Parent Governor and have taken on the role as I am passionate about the power of education. I believe that the role schools play for children, families and local communities is of the utmost importance. As a Governor I want to see Parrenthorn continue to thrive as a school and grow to provide the best possible education for all its pupils. I am currently employed within the secondary school sector and have first-hand experience of the challenges that Parrenthorn faces in maintaining its status as an outstanding school. Being a parent governor gives me the opportunity to be actively involved in ensuring that the needs of parents are met. I believe that the relationship between school and parents is an extremely important one with effective communication the key to maintaining this. I am particularly interested in the inclusion agenda and the work that the school carries out to promote high aspirations for all the students under its care.