



Governor Spotlight November 2019

Hello all,

It's been a busy start to this this academic year.

A local authority inspection (showing we are moving in the right direction), the continual monitoring of the School Development Plan 2019/20, numerous governor link visits being made for Early Years, Reading, Writing, Maths, Creative Curriculum, SIAMs/Christian Distinctiveness, sendco and Health & Safety as well as our successful conversion to DBAT on 1st October.

We have also held 2 FGB meetings to ensure we discuss and keep on top of all the different things going on throughout the school.

We are part of now DBAT

Following a smooth academy conversion, we are now part of the DBAT family. The conversion is already positively impacting the school and we are working hard behind the scenes to ensure this continues.

We are now a 'local board' with members of DBAT attending our governor meetings as well as members of the Governing Body attending various DBAT meetings throughout the year meaning we have the ability to draw from a wealth of experience and leadership where necessary.

New School Leadership

It is apparent that in order to achieve the stability and consistency needed to get Sutton Benger school back to where we want to be, we need to change the current school leadership structure.

Following conversations with DBAT over several months we are delighted to inform you that, with their full support, we are recruiting for a permanent, substantive Head teacher for the school. This role will be solely focused on Sutton Benger and will replace the combined roles of exec head and head of school.

We will begin this process immediately and will look to appoint by Friday 13th December with an anticipated start date of April, allowing for plenty of time to ensure a comprehensive handover to the successful applicant during the rest of the year.

We will share more details as we have them.

New faces on the Governing Body

As we say goodbye and thank you to Katie Brown, Daisy Broomfield, Mel Knight and James Passmore for their time supporting the school, we also welcome a 3 new faces including our new co-chair Abi Aspin, Jodie Anstee and Caroline McCartney all of whom bring a wealth of experience across different areas including HR, finance, GDPR and Early Years (new Governor profiles for Abi and Jodie can be found on page 2).

We are always on the lookout for new Governors and we'd welcome conversations with interested parents and/or members of the community. We are also actively looking to recruit a clerk to the Governors.

If you or anyone you know is interested and would like to help us on our journey please contact James Hirst jhirst@suttonbenger.wilts.sch.uk or Abi Aspin aaspin@suttonbenger.wilts.sch.uk



New Governor Profile

Jodie Anstee



I was really pleased to join the Board of Governors in July this year as a Foundation Governor. The school has such a strong sense of community, based on its vision and values.

I have three children, one in Hope, one in Rainbow and another one to start school in a couple of years. Both boys love the school and it is great watching them grow in such a nurturing environment.

Education is so important to build a better future for individuals, communities and our environments. I've been very fortunate to work in higher education for nearly 15 years, teaching, researching and more recently leading on strategy and governance. It has been amazing being part of the development and success of people and ideas throughout that period.

I hope to bring the skills and experiences I have developed to support the school on its journey as it strives to achieve the very best for its children, empowering them to believe, strive and succeed together.

New Governor Profile

Abi Aspin



I've recently been appointed as a Foundation (Church) Governor and the Co- Chair of Governors at Sutton Benger, I've been asked a lot recently why did I want to become a Governor? And here's why ...

I first became a Governor in 2013 at my children's previous school. It was small village school like Sutton Benger, that not only allowed my son to learn academically but to receive a well-rounded education in a caring environment.

I wanted to be part of that and to offer the school my skills learnt during a career in Financial Services Management. The reasons for becoming a Governor then, still stand today.

Whilst my son has just started at Hardenhuish, my daughter has several more years at Sutton Benger and I want to help the school ensure all children are able to fulfil their potential.

Another reason for becoming a Governor again now, is that I wanted the opportunity to help Sutton Benger improve their Ofsted Rating back to Good and beyond, having been through that journey at the children's previous school.