

We are a group of volunteers whose purpose is to help the school provide the best possible working environment for its staff and education for its pupils and to enable them to reach the highest standards of achievement. We are required to behave as “critical friends” to the school at all times. Our role includes providing leadership and direction for the school, monitoring and evaluating their work, offering support, constructive advice, a sounding board for ideas and initiatives and help where needed. This also includes challenging and asking questions of the Head teacher.

The main work of the governors is carried out through two committees: Pupil and Curriculum related matters Committee and Leadership and Management Committee each of which meet at least once a term and report back to the full governing body which meets once a term. All governors sit on all committees.



Susan Asser – Chair of Governors

I have been a governor at Harrow Lodge since July 2010, first as an additional governor, then a community governor and now a Local Authority governor. I have been chair since November 2010. My working life was primarily in the higher education sector, latterly as the Registrar of The University of the Arts London. I am a qualified Chartered Secretary and Fellow of the Institute of Secretaries and have a Master’s degree in Education Management. It has been and continues to be a privilege to serve on the Governing Body of Harrow Lodge and I am excited about the future of the school.

Register of Interest – None



Lynette Searle – Head teacher Governor

After leaving school, I gained a First Class Honours degree in Social Psychology and Computing at Loughborough University followed by a PGCE at the same institution. I began teaching in 1986 and taught in Catholic Primary Schools for 29 years until joining Harrow Lodge Primary School in 2015 as Deputy Head Teacher. During my years as a teacher, I gained extensive experience teaching all age groups in all forms of structures including vertical grouping and village school structures (3 year groups in one class)

I taught part-time whilst bringing up my 2 children, sometimes as a cover teacher and other times job-sharing. I took on the role as Head Teacher at Harrow Lodge Primary School in September 2018. I have a passion for social mobility believing that every child has the right and the ability to achieve success regardless of their background and regardless of the cards life deals them. Teachers have the power to ensure that every child who passes through their hands gains the confidence, aspiration and ability to reach the very pinnacle of success.

Register of Interest – None



Anthony Simpson – Parent Governor

My name is Anthony Simpson and I am a Parent Governor at Harrow Lodge Primary School.

A 20 year career in finance has helped me develop strong numerical, leadership and communication skills. A readiness to challenge but with a collaborative approach to problem solving. I'm able to manage projects effectively and make informed judgements that deliver the most appropriate solutions.

I became a Parent Governor to help the school deliver a safe, enjoyable and effective place of education of the highest calibre for our children and the local community.

Register of Interest – None



Suzanne Bracken – Staff Governor

My name is Suzanne Bracken and I have recently joined as Staff Governor at Harrow Lodge Primary School. My career in education started after leaving full-time work within the police service to take care of three young children and taking a keen interest in their school, joining the PTA, volunteering and eventually being employed to undertake group and one-to-one interventions, liaising with professionals and undertaking Teaching Assistant roles in schools within Havering Borough. After a brief flirtation in teaching training I opted for a Higher Level Teaching Assistant role and joined Harrow Lodge Primary school in 2012.

I am currently one of two Higher Level Teaching Assistants covering for teaching staff during absences across Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Due to this role I believe I have an unique insight into the activities of the school and can therefore provide a useful link between the staff and the governing body – reporting back to colleagues of decisions made and reasoning as well as contributing up to date, regular information to broaden governors' understanding of both staff and pupils' achievements, concerns, weaknesses and strengths.

Register of interests – None



Andy Nicholls – Co-opted

Andy Nicholls has been a co-opted (Community) Governor at Harrow Lodge Primary School for over eight years. I have seen a number of changes throughout the years and would like to say, as a committed member of the governing body, our ethos is to transform, Harrow Lodge Primary school with the help of all parties with in the local community to provide an outstanding school within the borough.

My background is in construction with over twenty years' experience as a carpenter/joiner, progressing into architecture, when I completed my degree at

Greenwich University. I changed my career in 2009 and retrained into the childcare sector to progress my wife's business due to her company expanding.

Register of Interest: Director Parklanes Wykeham Childcare Ltd



Sarah Cole – Parent Governor

As a previous pupil of Harrow Lodge Primary (or Wykeham as it was back then), the school has been part of my life for over thirty years. My mum was a teacher here throughout my childhood, and I enjoyed almost seven years as a pupil myself. Now, I have my eldest son attending the school, with my youngest hopefully starting soon!

My career has always been in education, working both in a Special Educational Needs School and as a swimming teacher. I have spent over 14 years of my life dedicated to working with children with Special Needs and Disabilities.

I became a parent governor because I care about the school and I care about all children and their education and opportunities in life. This role allows me to be more active in ensuring that our school is the best it can be for everyone involved.

The governors welcome comments and suggestions for improvements for our school and can be contacted via the school office.