

# Our School Vision

**Our vision** is to create an inclusive school community where children are provided with opportunities to reach their **full potential** and be proud of their **achievements**.



The staff and governors believe that learning **should be fun, purposeful and challenging**. Through our curriculum we will equip each child with the skills they need for lifelong learning. We aim to develop

confident learners who are proud of their achievements and are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

We believe that **every child matters**. Through positive attitudes and partnerships we endeavour to develop the whole child, meeting individual needs in a safe and secure environment where differences are celebrated. As a voluntary controlled Church of England school, we believe that all are equal in the eyes of God.



We believe that **good teamwork** and positive partnerships – with individual children, the whole class, our colleagues, with governors, parents and the wider community - will lead to **effective teaching, high standards and successful learning**. Our school motto is 'Live to Learn, Learn to Live', and our children are encouraged to enjoy learning, working, playing and cooperating with their peers to the best of their abilities.



The Chair and Vice-Chair **co-ordinate** the board's activities and provide a lead to the other members. They therefore have a **strong influence** on the effectiveness of the Governing Body.

**Janice Hiscock**

*Chair of the Governing Board*  
[jhiscock@southwick.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:jhiscock@southwick.wilts.sch.uk)



**Neil McManus**

*Vice-chair of the Governing Board*  
*Chair of the Curriculum committee*  
[nmcmanus@southwick.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:nmcmanus@southwick.wilts.sch.uk)



**Claire Grant**

*Chair of the Resources committee*  
[cgrant@southwick.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:cgrant@southwick.wilts.sch.uk)

Picture  
coming  
soon

The other members of the school's governing body are as follows:

**Lesley Shellard** - head; **Paula Bartlett** - staff rep; **Carole Moon**; **Lyn Taylor**; **Emma Larkham**; **Carol Brautigam**; **Danny Holland** - Clerk to the governors

### **Contact Details:**

[clerk.gov@southwick.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:clerk.gov@southwick.wilts.sch.uk)  
01225 763325 (school admin office)

Additional governor information is available on the school's website:

<http://www.southwick.wilts.sch.uk/>

## Southwick C of E Primary School Governor Information Leaflet



## The Role of the School's Governing Body

The governing body is the **strategic decision-making** body in the school. It has a crucial role in making sure every child gets the best possible education. The role of the governing board is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school.

**Ofsted require** governing bodies to:

- set the school's **strategic direction**
- hold the **headteacher to account** for the school's performance
- ensure that the **school's budget is properly managed**



## What Is A School Governor?

School governors are **volunteers** who help to support the running of the school. All schools work with a group of school governors - together they're called the '**governing body**'. They're involved in decisions about all aspects of managing the school, such as the updating of school **buildings** and overseeing **budgets**.

Governors also help to make big decisions about the **school's long-term goals**. They support the headteacher, but also ask questions and monitor progress to make sure the headteacher is taking the school in the right direction.

## Who Can Become A School Governor?

**Anyone over 18** can be a school governor – you don't have to be a parent with a child at the school. However, every governing body includes **parent governors**, and it can be a rewarding way to be involved in your child's school.

The most important qualities for being a governor are **enthusiasm, commitment** and an **interest in education**. You don't need to have teaching experience, but it's useful to bring skills from other areas of your life.

If you're interested in becoming a governor, talk to the current chair of governors or the clerk (details overleaf). When there's a **vacancy** for a **parent governor** all parents will be informed, and you'll have a chance to stand for **election**.



## What Contributions Do Governors Make To Schools?

Being a school governor is about **making a difference**. Governors help schools with their challenge to constantly drive standards higher by:

- Agreeing the aims and objectives for the school
- Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of the school and challenging those weaknesses
- Agreeing the school's budget each year
- Agreeing targets for pupil achievement
- Reviewing headteacher performance
- Ensuring accountability for the school to parents and the community
- Participating in staff appointments.

The headteacher is responsible for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and the implementation of the strategic framework established by the governing board.



School governors are supported by the **National Governors' Association**, which represents all school governors and trustees in England; there are over 300,000 governors, one of the largest volunteer groups in the UK.

The NGA aims to support governors in the provision of effective leadership by providing up to date **information, advice** and **guidance**, and through a consultancy and training service which offers both external reviews of governance, governing body health checks, and bespoke training.

## The Role Of Parents At Southwick School



### Ofsted and 'Parent View'

Parent View is an online questionnaire for parents and carers to feed back on their child's school. Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. Parent View also offers a simple way for those who lead and manage schools to find out **what parents think** of the school.

**Parent View** is at the following link:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

### Parents: the key stakeholders

The government has repeatedly emphasised the importance it places on stakeholders and their views on schools, none more so than **parents**. Research has shown that the **involvement of parents**, especially for children between the ages of seven to sixteen, in their schooling had a **greater influence** on attainment than family background, size of family or level of parental education.

### Why are the views of parents important?

A school needs to understand its parents and their views of the education being provided to their children because **parents choose schools** and they have an **enormous influence** on their children's learning.