

PARKSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL - Members of Governing Body Over Last 12 Months

15/05/2017

Surname	First Name	Biography
Bowden	Simon	I have been a Parent Governor since December 2014. I have a degree in Physics from Trinity Hall, Cambridge, an MBA from London Business School and a Master's degree in Pure Mathematics from the Open University. I am currently studying towards a Master's Degree in Data Analytics at Bournemouth University. I worked for a number of years for an American Investment Bank in London, running the derivatives trading and research businesses. I am currently retired. I have two girls at Parkstone Grammar School and two boys at Poole Grammar School, where I am also a Governor. I sit on the Governor's Curriculum and Student Matters Committee. I am the link Governor for Mathematics and the Sciences. My interests are technology, computing and paddleboarding.
Burn	Andrew	Until my retirement in May 2016, I had worked for the BSO for over 23 years as a member of its Senior Management Team, holding the posts of Head of Education and Ensembles, and latterly, Head of Projects. Through the first role I was involved in bringing arts/education music projects into most of the primary and secondary schools in Poole and Bournemouth. My wife, Caroline, is Headteacher of St Mark's C of E Primary School, Bournemouth; our daughter left PGS in 2013 after sixth form and is reading Law at Bournemouth University. After reading Music at East Anglia University, I embarked on a career in arts, theatre and music administration, working for English National Opera, the Citizens Theatre, Glasgow, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, before moving to the BSO and Poole in 1993. I was also Artistic Director of the Chester Summer Music Festival for 15 years and am a trustee of four charitable music trusts including the Arthur Bliss Charitable Trust of which I am Chair. I was delighted when I was elected a Parent Governor in 2010 and was very pleased to continue on the governing body as a Community Governor from 2014. I have tried to bring to the governing body, the skills and experience I have gained in over 40 years working in arts management, particularly in the field of education and the arts, as well as through my work with charitable trusts. My leisure pursuits include a life-long passion for theatre. I am Pupil Premium Governor, Vice-Chairman of the Curriculum and Student Matters Committee and sit on the Finance and Premises, and Personnel and Training committees.
Dawson	Karen	I am passionate about taking opportunities to give something back and so am delighted to join the Board of Governors at my old school. I have now enjoyed over 25 years' experience in the financial services sector with a number of senior management positions in marketing, product development and research across a wide range of propositions with Royal Sun Alliance, Lloyds Bowmaker and am currently the Head of Product Governance and Risk at LV=. I hold a Diploma in Marketing and a Degree in Business Studies and am a Member of the Chartered Institute of Marketing. I have also worked as a volunteer English Language tutor for two years at the Adult Learning Centre in Poole and am currently a volunteers supporting the inspiring Futures campaign visiting schools to do my bit to encourage student to develop and realise career aspirations, sharing my personal experiences and giving an insight into the various paths and opportunities for exciting and fulfilling careers in financial services. On a personal note, I enjoy touring the UK with my husband in our old camper van and walking our lively Manchester Terrier.
Dawson	Michael	Governorship ended
Denslow	Margaret	I moved to Poole when I was a child and attended Parkstone Grammar School, both at the Ashley Cross site and, briefly, at Sopers Lane. My three sons all attended Poole Grammar School. Before they were born I worked for the Ministry of Labour and for Natwest. When they were small I worked in three local schools doing ancillary jobs, and then joined Dorset Careers Service, later to become Connexions. I hold a Diploma in Career Guidance and worked as a Careers Adviser in nine local schools (including Parkstone Grammar School) as well as The College. I have worked with students of all abilities ranging from those with Severe Learning Difficulties to those aspiring to go to university as well as those wishing to enter the labour market. I was also a member of the local Young Enterprise board (now Enterprise Challenge). Having been involved with schools as a student, a parent, an ancillary and in a peripatetic capacity, I hope that my experience may be useful. I was a JP for eight years as part of "Magistrates in the Community", gave talks to adult and school groups as well as being a judge at the Mock Trials competition for local schools. I am a member of Poole U3A Poetry and Quiz groups.
Dunk	Simon	I was elected in 2012 as a Parent Governor and then again in 2015. I am enjoying the opportunity to support PGS through these challenging fiscal times and the excitement of the new Sixth Form Building development. I look forward to being able to positively contribute towards the development of the school during my time as a governor. My daughter is now in Year 12 and I am keen to be engaged throughout her time at the school. I have always enjoyed being involved in school life assisting as a member of the PTA in primary school and supporting my children in their sporting activities. By way of background, after graduating from Nottingham University in Biochemistry I have served as an officer in the British Army. I have had 28 years' experience in training both as practitioner and also in a management role. This has included the education of officers at the Defence Academy, the coordination of teaching staff and the involvement in large scale financial planning. My current role involves attendance at strategic planning meetings, where I have been both Secretary and Chairman. To relax, I provide a taxi service to my twin daughters, play and watch as much sport as possible and enjoy taking my dog on long walks in the New Forest. I look forward to being able to help maintain and develop further the exceptional status that the school enjoys. I am enjoying my 4 years as a Governor as I believe that PGS is outstanding and I welcome the opportunity to be part of the Governing Body. I sit on the Finance and Premises Committee and currently link to the MFL Link Group within PGS.

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Harris	Tracy	I was delighted to join Parkstone as Headteacher in April 2013. I have previously worked as Deputy Headteacher in South Wilts Grammar School for Girls and therefore have significant experience in challenging and inspiring able girls. Previous to this I fulfilled a senior leader role in a comprehensive mixed school in Bournemouth. I graduated with a BA Hons History from Exeter University, but can often be found teaching other subjects including Food Technology and Business Studies! Teaching is my passion and I try to stay active in the classroom. In addition to my role at Parkstone, I am also a qualified Ofsted inspector and actively inspect other schools in the UK. I am also an amateur musician and play tenor horn with a local contesting brass band whose recent success leads us to compete against some of the best bands in the country. I sit on all governor committees.
Holman	John	I joined the IT Support Team at Parkstone Grammar School in 2014 having taken the decision to retire from my 40-year career in the electronics industry, with a view to giving something back into the local community. I graduated from the University of Southampton in 1977 with a degree in Electronic Engineering and registered as a Chartered Electronic Engineer in 1995. I am married with three grown up children and have lived in Dorset for the majority of my life. My interests include sailing, music and DIY. My father was a school teacher as is my wife and more recently my daughter, so education is an important part of our lives.
Hosier	Matthew	I am the father of three daughters who are currently pupils at Parkstone, in Years 13, 11 and 10. They have all benefitted from the excellent teaching at PGS, as well as the pastoral care system and extra-curricular activities. My fourth daughter will – hopefully – be starting at the school next September. This means I have a long and committed relationship with PGS, and care deeply about its success. In addition, my wife Grace teaches at Poole Grammar School, so education is a very important part of our family. I studied zoology at the University of Newcastle and went on to post-graduate study at the University of London before a switch in career path led to me becoming a church minister; at first in London, and for the past eight years at Gateway Church in Poole. As part of my continuing education I studied for an MA in ethics at King's College, London and have been a member of NHS research ethics committees in Greenwich and Poole. I am a member of Poole Athletic Club and most Saturday morning can be found in Poole Park taking part in parkrun.
Huxter	Simon	My daughter is a year 9 student at Parkstone and having witnessed her progress over the past couple of years I felt compelled to put my name forward for the parent governor election in February 2017. I was naturally delighted (and a little apprehensive) when I discovered that I had been elected. I live in Broadstone and I have been a police officer now for over 20 years. I currently manage a large team which keeps me incredibly busy but I hope to be able to pass on my knowledge and experience to the PGS family during my tenure as a parent governor. My key priority is to assist the school's leadership, staff and parents in ensuring that all students can learn and thrive in a safe and happy environment. I have already been incredibly impressed with the drive and commitment of staff and students and I truly believe that as parents, we are all very fortunate to have a daughter who attends this amazing school
McMullen	Alison	I am very pleased to join the board of governors at Parkstone Grammar School, and to have the opportunity to work with a school of which the Borough can be proud. I have previously served as a parent governor at a local first school as chair of the Finance Committee and thoroughly enjoyed my time in the role, particularly seeing the school go from strength to strength in providing a well-rounded education for the children. I also enjoyed attending events and performances put on throughout the year. I have a daughter currently at Parkstone in Year 10 and my elder daughter graduated from university in 2012 after a successful time at the school. I believe Parkstone gives girls many opportunities to grow in confidence and life skills as well as academic achievements, and this is one of its strengths. I currently work as an HR manager in the NHS, and I feel that my skills and experience will enable me to make a positive contribution to the school.
Pope	Samantha	I was thrilled to be informed in October 2014 that I had been successfully elected as a parent governor at PGS as I have always valued education and love learning. I live in Branksome with my husband and daughter, who is now in Year 8 at PGS. She has settled into senior school life well and is enjoying the learning and experiences here. Education has always been important to me; I loved school and I have continued to develop and train throughout my career as a cancer nurse. I was a Ward Sister for 8 ½ years on a Haematology Ward undertaking and ensuring a high standard of holistic care was consistently delivered by the nursing team to patients with cancer as well as ensuring that staff were educationally equipped to deliver this care. I currently work as a Haematology and Bone Marrow Clinical Nurse Specialist (a bit of a mouth full!) I have been in this role for over 8 years. Despite being in cancer care for over 25 years I remain motivated and keen to develop my own skills and knowledge base and that of others and run study days for nurses. I feel that happiness in education is really very important as this helps with motivation as well as retention of what is being learnt. I feel very privileged to serve as a parent governor at PGS as the school strives to treat each girl as an individual using a variety of teaching experiences and methods.

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Salt	Denise	I have worked at Parkstone since 1993 and was initially employed as Head of PE. I chose to go part time in 1995 for 8 years to bring up my two boys. One has just completed his training for Law and is now working as an Associate Lawyer at a large international firm in London, whilst the other has just completed his A levels at Poole Grammar and is planning his gap year. I returned to full time teaching in 2004 and became a Head of Year, a role which I love! I also work with a member of the Leadership Group as Deputy Designated Lead for Safeguarding within Parkstone. This is my second term as a Staff Governor and I sit on the Curriculum and Student Matters and Personnel and Training Committees.
Simmons	Ann	I have been a governor at Parkstone since September 2007. At present I am Vice Chair of Governors, Chair of the Personnel and Training Committee and serve on the Curriculum and Student Matters Committee. I link with the Pastoral Group and am the named governor for SEND. I also act as Responsible Officer for the Academy. I moved to Poole in 2001 having completed my thirty-eight year teaching career in London as Assistant Head of a Church of England Girls' Comprehensive School. I have always been concerned that a school should provide opportunities for girls to fulfil their potential in all aspects of intellectual and personal development in order that they may achieve their highest ambitions in life after school. Acting as a governor at Parkstone I am pleased, therefore to be able to support the School in its outstanding achievements in educating girls from Poole and Dorset. Outside education my main interests involve sport – watching mostly apart from badminton – and music. I support the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and attend all their Poole concerts. I belong to a Book Club and serve on the committee of The Bournemouth Literary Luncheon Club. I enjoy gardening and attempt to grow all our vegetable needs during the summer. I spend quite a lot of time at home being entertained by my lively Border Terrier!
Stark	Dawn	I moved to Dorset over 20 years ago from Glasgow and work at a local insurance brokers, but have also worked as a Teaching Assistant. Both my daughters attended and flourished at Parkstone, my younger daughter now in year 13. I am highly appreciative of the support they received from the school and wanted to give something back in return. I became a governor at the school in 2008, and have seen many changes. Throughout these times, the school has maintained its ethos of allowing students access to a very broad curriculum and encouraging personal, as well as academic development. I am proud, and privileged, to be part of an organisation that puts the welfare of its students at the heart of all decisions. I am currently Chair of Governors and our Steering Committee, as well as being the Nominated Governor for Safeguarding. I also sit on all committees.
Whitaker	Simon	I retired and moved from Hertfordshire to Poole in 2014 with my wife and 2 children. My daughter joined PGS Year 7 in 2016 and I joined as a Governor in early 2017. My working life was mainly in Financial roles for a bank in central London covering business and strategic planning, income generation, economic analysis, cost management and information provision some of which I hope will prove useful to the school. Outside work I studied garden design, bricklaying, dry stone walling and advanced driving techniques purely as interests and undertook a number of projects to design and build gardens for friends. I have also managed several business planning processes for a music production company. I am currently very occupied with the re-design and complete renovation of our home and when finished intend to get back to my other interests of cycling, garden design, motor sport, cricket and walking.
Willis	Trevor	I joined Parkstone Grammar School as a teacher of Religion and Philosophy in September 2010 and have since served as both an Assistant Head of Year and now am in my fourth year as Head of Year. I am currently also responsible for Anti-Bullying initiatives within the school and have lead a school improvement project focused on assessment and feedback. I am actively engaged in extracurricular activities and have oversight of both the U13 and U15 school cricket teams. Before joining Parkstone I worked for 5 years at a boys' grammar school in Kent and was seconded part time to Christchurch University College to assess PGCE students in various schools around the county. My wife, Naomi, also works at Parkstone as a teacher of English and we have a young son, Seth to keep us busy when we are not marking!