

I am applying to be a Parent Governor because I want the best for my children and believe my professional experience and previous governance role can help the school. I served as Chair of Governors at Matthew Arnold Primary School from December 2019 to December 2023. During that time, I supported improvements in financial governance, led recruitment of teaching staff, and oversaw the transition to a new headteacher. When I joined, the school was rated "Requires Improvement" by Ofsted. I represented the governing body during the 2020 inspection, which resulted in a "Good" rating. I also supported the school through the challenges of COVID, when Matthew Arnold was designated a hub school, requiring rapid adaptation to financial and teaching pressures. I have dealt with parental complaints and sensitive HR matters, always working to balance Department for Education guidelines with the practical needs of the school community.

This school has been part of my family's life for over a decade—from my eldest daughter, who left last year, to my youngest, now in nursery. I care deeply about its future and want to help ensure it continues to thrive for all children in our community. I understand the responsibilities and time commitment involved in being a governor and am fully prepared to engage with training, meetings, and strategic planning. I bring a collaborative mindset, a strong understanding of governance, and a commitment to supporting the school's leadership while holding it to account.