**General governance statement**

Governing bodies are responsible for the strategic management of a school and will make decisions about a wide range of issues. The role of the Governors is to ensure that all the statutory duties of governance in the school are carried out.

**The core responsibilities involved are:**

* Ensuring accountability
* Acting as a ‘critical friend’ to the Head Teacher
* Monitoring and evaluating the school’s progress
* Planning for the long term future of the school
* Setting the school’s aims and values
* Appointing senior members of staff including the Head Teacher

Many Governors have developed areas of specialism, and to ensure that this level of expertise is not lost experienced Governors are paired up with and work alongside less experienced Governors. The Governing Body is analytical and prepared to probe their own thinking. They aim high, are forward thinking and evaluative of their work and practice. They engage in regular training, both compulsory and voluntary.

We follow a committee  model of governance, with  governors also allocated to monitor specific key responsibility areas within the school, as identified on the School Improvement Plan. We have 6 full governing body meetings each year. Minutes from these meetings are held by the school and the Multi Academy Trust and are available upon request.

The Governors work with the Diocese as part of the Multi Academy Trust.

The Chair of the Governors is more than happy to answer any questions on governance and can be contacted through the school or on the following email address: [phillip.buckley@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk](mailto:phillip.buckley@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk)

**Governors**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GOVERNOR TYPE** | Governors’ Appointing Body | **NAME** | **ROLES** | **Term of office** |
| **Appointed Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Dr Phillip Buckley | Acting Chair  Early Years  Leadership | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 November 2024  30 September 2028 | 30 September 2028 | |
| **Appointed Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Mr Justin Morley | Vice Chair  Quality of Education | 15th March 2024- 15th March 2028 |
| **Headteacher** |  | Miss Leanne Bennett |  | 1st September 2022- |
| **Appointed Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Mr David O'Brien | Personal Development | 20th January 2025- 20th January 2029 |
| **Appointed Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Mr Richard Chew | Safeguarding | 4th December 2022- 4th December 2026 |
| **Governor** | Elected? | Mr Harry Sampson | Skills and Training  Early Years | 4th October 2021-3rd October 2025 |
| **Appointed Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Ms Carol Poole | Health and Safety | 18.3.25 – 17.3.29 |
| **Co-opted Governor** | Elected? | Mrs Maria Elsam | Quality of Education  SEND | 29th March 2016- 20th March 2026 |
| **Co-opted Governor** |  | Vacancy |  |  |
| **Parent Governor** |  | Vacancy |  |  |
| **Parent Governor** | Appointed by MAT? | Mr Luke Hedges | Finance  Personal Development | 21st December 2021-20th December 2025 |
| **Staff Governor** | Elected | Mrs Julie Shaw | Behaviour and Attitudes | 18th June 2021-17th June 2025 |
| **Clerk** | Appointed by MAT? | Louise Barr | Clerk |  |

**Documents and links**

Link the heading ‘Aquila Trustees ‘ - <http://www.aquilatrust.co.uk/614/trustees>

Link the heading ‘Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Trust’ – <http://www.aquilatrust.co.uk/554/performance-results-and-key-information>

Link the heading ‘Scheme of delegation’ – (I need to find)

Link the heading ‘Performance, Results and Key Information’ - <http://www.aquilatrust.co.uk/554/performance-results-and-key-information>

Link the heading ‘Executive Pay Disclosure’ –– (I need to find)

Link the heading ‘Register of interests’ – (I have attached to email)

Link the heading ‘2024 -2025 Attendance list’ – (I have attached to email)

Link the heading ‘2023 -2024 Attendance list’ – (I have attached to email)