Meet the Governors

Clavering Primary School
Learning together to be the best that we can



Ray Gooding: Chair of governors, Local Authority governor

I have been a Governor of Clavering Primary School since 2008 and for the last five years have been the Chair. I have extensive experience in education, having previously been the Cabinet Member for Education at Essex County Council and a Governor of a number of other schools including a Special School and an Independent School where I gained experience in educating children with a diversity of needs.

I am an Engineer by profession and was the Senior Partner in a firm of Consulting Engineers for more than 25 years; I am able to employ the skills learnt in my professional career for the benefit of the school whether by regarding the property or the business requirements.



Julia Mackintosh: Vice chair of governors, Co-opted governor

I have lived in Clavering for almost 30 years and recently retired from a career in education. Initially a primary school teacher, for the past 13 years I have worked as a teacher educator, training primary school teachers at the University of Hertfordshire.

I joined the governing body in 2020 and became vice-chair in 2023. In my role as link governor for pupils with Special Educational Needs I enjoy the opportunity to meet and support parents during our termly Inclusion Coffee Mornings. I am passionate about all aspects of primary education and am excited to be able to contribute to the future of Clavering Primary School in my role as a governor.



Ros Allsop: Headteacher

I joined Clavering in 2004 as the Deputy Headteacher until 2007, when I became a Primary School Consultant for the Local Authority. I returned to Clavering as Headteacher in 2010.

I hold overall responsibility for the day to day leadership and management of the school with a specific focus on Teaching and Learning, Safeguarding and Inclusion. I am proud to be part of a dedicated and hard working team. We strive to support and provide challenge for all learners, enabling them to overcome barriers to reach their full potential and thrive.

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Nick Briggs: Parent governor
I was delighted to be elected as a Parent Governor, having a son and a daughter currently thriving in Year 5. With my children attending the school, I am deeply invested in our community and passionate about ensuring every child receives the best possible support and education. Professionally, I work in veterinary practice business management. This role allows me to bring strong expertise in strategic business growth, operational development, and team leadership to the governing board. Alongside my management skills, I place a massive focus on wellbeing and mental health, which I believe are foundational to both personal and academic success. As a governor, my goal is to combine these skills to support the school in reaching its development targets and championing our fantastic teaching staff. I am fully committed to ensuring our school remains a safe, nurtured, and inspiring environment where all children can grow both emotionally and academically.



Jake Jones: Parent governor
I have lived in the village for since 2021, although grew up in Great Chesterford, so know the area well. I have 3 boys, all have been pupils at Clavering Primary - the youngest is in his final year, so it will be an end of an era! My career is wide-ranging, with the last 16 years having been in sport, ranging from the 2012 Olympics & Paralympics, through to sports agencies, and global sports rightsholders, in roles that include commercial, operations, process, leadership and sustainability. I am also a Non-Executive Director at Skateboard GB, the national federation for grassroots and Olympic skateboarding in the UK. I have been a school governor at Clavering Primary since 2021, and I have experienced, as a parent, and as a governor, the outstanding work that the teaching team, pupils, and wider community do to make the school so good.



Emma Kamel: Co-opted governor
I have lived in the village for almost 10 years and have 2 children - one at school and one at pre-school. My career encompasses finance, leadership, strategy, sales and operations. My current role is running the Northern European division of Too Good to Go, an app that prevents food surplus from ending in the bin. I've previously served as a Trustee and Treasurer for charities that support young people.
This is my first school governor role and I have been in this role for 3 years, focusing on financial governance and support. I am a true champion of this wonderful school, with its great learning outcomes and sense of community. It's an honour to give back through my role on the governing board.

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Rachel Morton: Staff governor
I have been in education for over 20 years, starting as a secondary school and sixth form performing arts teacher. For over the last 15 years I have been in the primary sector teaching from years 1 to year 6. I started at Clavering Primary School in 2019, joining the SLT in 2022 and then becoming Deputy Head in 2025.
I am in this profession because I want to shape the future of children's lives. Every decision I make is driven by what will benefit the pupils in our setting. The changes I introduce are rooted in research—a genuine passion of mine—and are always designed to improve the educational experience and outcomes for every child.



Claudia O'Farrell: Co-opted governor
I moved to the UK from South Africa with my husband in 2022 and we have lived in Clavering for just over three years. I recently retired following a career that began in primary education. I taught in both South Africa and the UK before moving into Human Resources, where I worked with organisations and leaders on a range of people-related matters. I am excited to take on this opportunity to become involved in the local community as a governor. My experience in education and HR gives me a clear appreciation of the factors that contribute to a happy and successful school - from strong leadership to a supportive environment for both pupils and staff - and I look forward to bringing this experience to Clavering Primary School.



Jack Saxton: Parent governor
Hello, I'm Jack Saxton. I work as a Quantity Surveyor and have a keen interest in supporting education and giving back to the local community.
As a governor, I am excited to contribute my professional experience while helping the school continue to provide the best opportunities for its pupils.
I look forward to meeting and working with everyone involved in the school community.