

Meet the Rumboldswyke Church of England Infants' School Governors

The governors are a group of 12 people (currently with two vacancies) representing parents, school staff, St. George's church and the local community. We meet twice a term as a whole group. Also we meet as three sub committees, Resources, Health and Safety and the Curriculum and Standards committees. Governors chose which one of these they would like to join based on their skills, interests and life experiences. We monitor the budget, help to appoint staff, ensure that the building is kept in good repair, make sure that all health and safety requirements are met and make visits to see how the curriculum is delivered. We act as a 'critical friend' to Mrs. Sayce and are free to ask her challenging questions at our meetings. We are all passionate in our desire to help Mrs. Sayce and the staff continue to give the pupils at Rumboldswyke the best possible start to their education.

Chair of Governors - Mrs S Lowe

Vice Chair of Governors – Mrs J Oxford

Contact can be made with Governors by emailing Mrs Flint at the school – bursar@rumboldswyke.w-sussex.sch.uk



Amongst other things, I have worked in 'Practice' as an auditor, been a school bursar / business manager at two local private schools, and worked in senior roles in local industries. In addition to being a governor at Rumboldswyke (where I Chair the Finance and Resources Committee), I am also a Director of a small group of companies based in Itchenor. Our grandson, Lucas, left school in July after three delightful years at Rumboldswyke.

I became a school governor 22 years ago when our children first went to Kingsham Primary School. I have also been a governor at Portfield School and, for a short while, CHSB. I originally became a school governor because I wanted to take a greater interest in the education of our children and to try to contribute to easing the burden placed on head teachers and the staff of our local schools. My particular interest was in infant and primary schools as I believe this is where our children get the strong foundations to learning that will help them as they develop in future education and in life.

I am a very strong believer in the adage, "every child matters", something that seems to have been forgotten by both national and local government but, thankfully, not by our dedicated staff at Rumboldswyke who try exceptionally hard, working with the very limited resources that are made available to them, to provide our children with an excellent foundation for their future education.

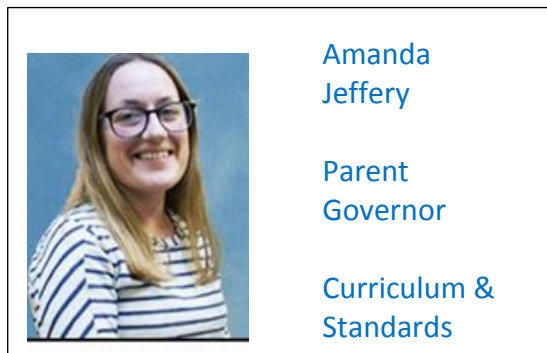


In September 2012 I was accepted as a Parent Governor for Rumboldswyke. I have recently been appointed as a Co-opted Governor, and am looking forward to working with the school for the foreseeable future continuing as the Chair for the Health, Safety and Premises Committee.

Both my daughter and son loved the school, were very happy here and enjoyed learning. They transitioned well to Central School and my daughter now attends St Phillip Howard School.

I am Deputy Head of Learning at Chichester College in the Construction Department, as well as running a small electrical safety consultancy business. My experience of both education and the construction industry help make me an effective Governor.

Rumboldswyke was a piece of magic in my children's lives, and I am proud to be part of a team striving to offer your children that special feeling too.

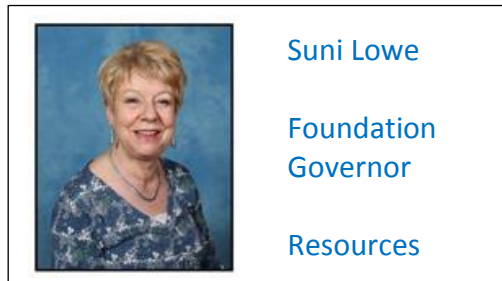


I have two children, a daughter who is in Year One at Rumboldswyke and a son who is three. I became a parent governor in January 2017 shortly after my daughter began in the Early Years. I currently sit on the Curriculum and Standards Committee and am the governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs.

For the past thirteen years I have worked as an Educational Psychologist for the Local Authority.

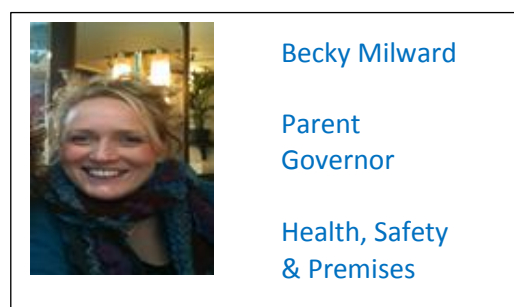
As part of this role I work with young people, families and education settings to apply psychology in a range of ways in order to effectively meet the needs of young people with Special Educational needs and Disabilities (SEND). The work is enjoyable and varied and I have a wide knowledge of education and promoting inclusion from birth to 25 years. Prior to qualifying as an Educational Psychologist I was a teacher for five years, teaching across Key Stage 1 as an Early Years Specialist and Leader.

I primarily became a school governor to support the vision of Rumboldswyke but also to use my experience to help take the school forward shaping the future of the school and to make a real contribution to the life of the school.



I became a teacher governor at Rumboldswyke in 1995 and, after my retirement, was appointed a Foundation governor by St. George's church. Apart from being the current Chair, I sit on the Resources committee and the Health, Safety and Premises committee. I have sat on the panel that appointed Mrs. Sayce and several other members of staff. I also take part in the Head's performance management review. I enjoy being part of such a happy and successful school community and consider it a privilege to help shape the future of the school.

In my spare time I do volunteer work at St. Richard's Hospital, sing in a choir and am attempting to get the family photos in some sort of coherent order. I am the proud grandmother of five amazing grandchildren, three of whom live in Australia.




My son Harry has just started in Dolphin Class and I was keen to find a way that I could support the school and Harry's education. I am pleased to be a new parent governor and am excited to get started.

In the last 17 years I have worked as a Dramatherapist (A form of Psychotherapy regulated by the HCPC) supporting various educational settings including Nursery, Primary, Secondary, Special Needs, Pupil Referral Units, Looked after Services and Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties Services.


I have supported schools with the emotional and social well-being of the children, working both individually, with groups and also providing supervision for staff. I have worked with vulnerable children exploring issues of bullying, self-confidence, social skills and emotional awareness as well as complex safeguarding issues.

As a parent governor I believe my tools as a dramatherapist will allow me to be creative around problem solving and that I would always hold the emotional needs of children in mind when looking at the issues being addressed. My current role in a local NHS secure hospital also allows me to be up to date with current policies and mental health services. In my role I explore organisational dynamics and team building therefore supporting services to work effectively and safely. I hope also to bring this knowledge into my role as governor.

	<p>Rachel Ottaway</p> <p>Local Authority Governor</p> <p>Curriculum and Standards</p>
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I am Rachel Ottaway and I have been a serving Governor at Rumboldswyke on and off for ten years. I have two children who both came up through the school, and I started as Parent Governor: I am currently a Local Authority Governor.

In my role I have chosen to help children with their reading and I attend for two hours a week, listening to and guiding young readers. I find this very rewarding. Other assistance I provide includes accompanying the school on outings to church, shops or field trips etc. I am retired and spend my free time running our student let, as well as cooking, reading and spending time with my family.

	<p>Jeannette Oxford</p> <p>Parent Governor</p> <p>Resources</p>
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As a member of the Governing Body at Rumboldswyke and chair of the Curriculum and Standards committee, there is certainly a lot to do and be a part of in supporting our wonderful school. My role involves leading the meetings we have as a committee; ensuring all the items on the agenda are discussed and to keep good time.

As a governor one of most important jobs is to ask challenging questions to Mrs Sayce to ensure every child at Rumboldswyke has the best possible care and education they can. With a background in education myself, I understand a lot about the current changes happening in education at the moment, as well as how they impact on teaching and learning.

However, asking challenging questions is not about testing or undermining those who care for your children, it is about information gathering. I ask a lot about different groups of children, how they are progressing in the curriculum and how that can be improved, as well as make suggestions about how this could happen. As with many things in life, when lots of heads are put together, a better solution can be found! My role is also about recognising where the school is doing really well and how we can best feed that back to everyone involved with the school, most commonly parents, but it could be OFSTED or an advisor or other governors at our full governing body meetings. I get information about how the school is run in a variety of ways, but the best way (and my favourite) is to come and visit the school. This gives you a real sense of what Rumboldswyke is like, what lessons are like and the wealth of activities the children get up to in a school day. Being a governor is both challenging and rewarding and as a volunteer, it is important to have the time to be effective at this role. I choose to be a governor (and give my time) to the children and staff at this school because I believe in the vision that Mrs Sayce has created for all the children in her care and I want to be a part of and contribute to it.

	<p>Father Tim Peskett</p> <p>Ex-officio Governor</p> <p>Curriculum and Standards</p>
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I have been the Rector of St. George's church since December 2014, and I really enjoy living and ministering in Chichester. It has been very good to return to the city where I trained for the ministry 25 years ago! I love our school, with its caring ethos, and I always look forward to my weekly visits to Rumboldswyke on a Tuesday afternoon to lead worship.

I try to keep my talks to the children interesting, engaging and above all, fun.

As Rector of St. George's, I am automatically a Foundation Governor of the School. In Church Schools like Rumboldswyke, foundation governors have a special care for the school's Christian character, as well contributing to the schools overall wellbeing and effectiveness.

I enjoy long distance running, gardening and giving concerts in aid of local charities on St. George's pipe organ which is one of the best organs in Sussex!

You may be assured of a warm welcome at our family service on Sundays at 10.00am.



Brendan
Saxton
Staff

I am the Deputy Head and Early Years Leader at Rumboldswyke and have been a staff governor before. I have taught in Dolphins Class for 8 years and loved every minute. My wife Helen is a teaching assistant and my daughters attend Parklands Primary School. Rumboldswyke has been a huge part of my life since I joined the team in 2007 and I'm looking forward to the challenge of taking the school forward as part of the governing body.



Fiona Sayce
Headteacher

I have been teaching for the past 27 years and been employed at 3 schools; 2 infant and 1 primary. Following my BA in Education, I was employed at an Infants' School in Littlehampton, where my main responsibilities were class teacher in Early Years and Year One.

In 1994 I moved to Tangmere where, after teaching Early Years and Key Stage One for two years, I became the leader of three mixed Year 3 / 4 classes.

After 5 years at Tangmere, I became the Deputy Headteacher at Rumboldswyke in 1999. In this capacity I took responsibility for the Early Years and ICT and then taught in Key Stage 1. Having settled into my new role, I continued my professional development by studying for the NPQH, a qualification for aspiring head teachers. In 2008 I was appointed Head at Rumboldswyke and took up the post in January 2010.

Throughout my career I have always felt particularly passionate about encouraging children to learn through an exciting curriculum with rich opportunities for outside activity.

Rumboldswyke has been a school that never sits still. We have always strived to give our children the very best opportunities. We have a tremendous staff team who are highly skilled, hardworking and are good friends. I am at my most nervous on interview day as it is so important to recruit the right 'Rumboldswyke' person!

In my spare time I love sailing, reading and gardening. I am also a proud Aunty to 6 wonderful nephews.
