



TOLWORTH GIRLS' SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

GOVERNOR PROFILES

NOVEMBER 2023

Andrew Perks

Chair of Governors

Community



I have been a Governor at TGS for 11 years. The first eight of these were in the 2010s and were focused on school finances and the successful delivery of the new build project. With the completion of the new build I stepped down as it also coincided with my retirement from paid work.

During the pandemic I was asked to come back and have spent the last three years as Chair of Governors. The initial period of that three years was spent navigating the challenges of COVID-19 and seeing the academy safely through all of the regulations and education constraints of the pandemic.

Post pandemic has all been about recovery from its effects and ensuring that TGS is in the best possible place to support staff, students and the community it serves. This focus has required me to have direct involvement in the quality of education and student welfare committees. The need to maximise care for our students (safeguarding and mental health) and ensuring the smoothest possible return to face to face education and external exams have been the two most significant challenges the academy faces and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

Term of Office: 02.07.20 - 01.07.24

Joint Safeguarding/SEND Link Governor
Human Resources Committee
Chair of Student Welfare & Behaviour Committee
Finance, Assets & Audit Committee (Vice-Chair)
Pay Committee
Headteacher Performance Review

Karthi Kuppaswamy

Vice Chair

Community



Through my positive outlook on life, I aim to bring a visionary perspective when thinking about the future direction of the school. There are many things I would like to accomplish through my vast knowledge, skills and experience to embody the values and ethos of the school. Being the Vice Chair allows me to serve and give back to my community which is central to what I aspire to achieve.

I have twenty plus years of diverse experience in Information Technology, Government, Education, Banking, Finance, Insurance and Community service due to strong leadership capabilities.

I am happy to be part of the winning team of the school to maximise efficiency and bring excellence to the school by prioritising the quality of education and the wellbeing of students.

**Finance, Assets & Audit Committee
Health & Safety/Relationship & Sex Education Link Governor**

Term of Office: 15.09.21 - 14.09.25

Paul McDonald

Governor

Community



I decided to join initially as a Parent Governor in order to become more involved in the school and community I chose for my children's education. I also wanted the opportunity to help ensure that students leave school well prepared for work having experienced a growing gap when recruiting graduate staff in my industry sector. I feel education is pivotal to effectively improving our society and so wanted to be involved in affecting that positive change. I have so far found the experience incredibly rewarding as well as challenging having only worked in the private sector and have learned a whole new vocabulary of acronyms and processes. It is a true privilege to help ensure our young minds can be the best they can be.

**Human Resources Committee
Equality Link Governor**

Term of Office 10.11.21 - 09.11.25

Charles Grieve

Governor

Co-opted



I was honoured to be asked to take up the role of governor of Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form in July 2017. My initial visits to TGS left me with the strong impression of a vibrant, dynamic and caring school with a truly inspiring principal. I am looking forward to doing all I can to ensure that TGS provides the first class education all our students deserve.

By training as an accountant, for the last 20 years I was a security regulator in Hong Kong with responsibility for corporate governance expectations of listed companies. I became involved with governance in education after I was asked to chair a group looking at the governance of a group of schools set up by legislation. We designed a new structure and then had to steer the equivalent of a private members' bill through the legislature. I then became chair of the governors for one of the schools. As a governor I would hope that my financial experience and work on governance will be of use to TGS.

Chair of Finance, Assets & Audit Committee
Joint Safeguarding/SEND Link Governor
Pupil Premium Link Governor
Term of Office: 03.07.21 - 02.07.25

Abigail Howard

Governor

Co-opted



I was delighted to be asked to take up the role of Teaching and Learning Link Governor at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form this year. I have been working in education for over 10 years in both the public and private sectors. As Head of Teaching and Learning at my current school, I am able to assist the school in its strategies to achieve a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all learners. By sharing good practice and ideas, I will be able to support TGS in its strive to maintain excellence in the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. I also hope that my understanding of the educational system in the primary setting will be of use to TGS when considering transition.

Teaching & Learning Link Governor
Quality of Education Committee

Term of Office: 02.07.20 - 01.07.24

Andy McCallum

Governor

Co-opted



After 40 years in Senior IT Leadership roles for multinational organisations I want to give back to the local community and use my talents and experience to support education in the area. I've had experience as a Trustee of an Education Trust and also have served on the Executive committee of Kingston District Scouts. I'm particularly interested in how the school can work with local businesses to enhance the employability of its pupils.

Finance, Assets & Audit Committee
Chair of Human Resources Committee
Digital Safeguarding Link Governor

Term of Office 02.07.21 - 01.07.25

Carol Wolrich

Governor

Co-opted



I have always felt very passionate about education and the impact it can have on changing people's lives (ask my 3 grown-up children!). As Chair of the Quality of Education committee I seek to understand as much as I can about the quality of education at TGS across all segments of pupils from SEND to High Attainer. I also attend as many of the teacher training CPD sessions as I can so that I can understand more about how the teachers are developing new skills and using them in the classroom.

My experience in senior roles in commercial organisations for the past 30 years has given me a wide range of strategic management skills that will be valuable in this - leadership, communications, teamwork, management among others. My experience ranges from large automotive companies to technology and education (University of Law). As EMEA Marketing Director for McGraw-Hill Education, I launched new educational technology courses for both schools and universities, seeing the impact of blended learning.

Chair of Quality of Education Committee
Teaching & Learning / Careers, Education & Guidance Link Governor
Term of Office 29.09.21 - 28.09.25

Bethan Davies

Governor

Staff



I am extremely excited to be the Staff Governor at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form. I whole-heartedly believe in the success of the students and staff, which is what makes TGS so forward-thinking, proactive, and special. I am looking forward to bringing my perspective and ideas to the committee to continue to place our students at the forefront of what we do and to provide a high-quality experience and education for all.

Term of Office: 12.05.23 - 11.05.27
Student Welfare & Behaviour Committee

George Tunnacliffe

Governor

Co-opted



I am very excited and honoured to be part of the Tolworth Girls' School and Sixth Form Governors team. I have varied educational experience, working as a teacher for two years, in the charity sector and in volunteering roles, as well as recently completing my Master's thesis on the decolonisation of the school curriculum. I currently work as an Associate Director at the CBI, where I lead on our proposition for our education members, ensuring that we give education providers a voice at a regional, national and international level. Through these experiences, I have generated a significant understanding of the current educational landscape and hear about issues that the education sector is facing on a daily basis. I am hugely passionate about the role of education in a child's development and look forward to being able to support the school in achieving its mission and upholding its values.

Quality of Education Committee (Vice-Chair)
Term of Office 22.03.22 - 21.03.26

Andy Darbyshire

Governor

Parent



Having seen two children through secondary school already and with two more currently in years 9 and 11, I am excited to be supporting Tolworth Girls in maintaining its excellent reputation as a well-run school.

Also, my professional experience as a senior manager in a variety of businesses, means I am well placed to contribute to the governing body in general and Human Resources Committee in particular.

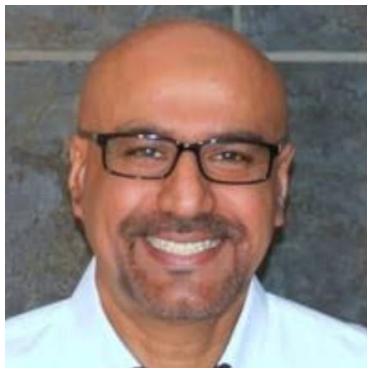
I am really looking forward to getting stuck into the positive and rewarding challenges that are part of the role of school governor.

Term of Office 22.04.22 - 21.04.26
Human Resources committee (Vice Chair)

Tariq Khurshid

Governor

Parent



"Be the change you want to see", is the reason I applied to be a Governor at TGS. I previously volunteered as a Saturday School Teacher at a Community Centre in West London providing Years 7-8 children with English & Maths tuition and was on the Parents Focus group at Ellingham. I qualified as a Chartered Engineer; my current job is Agile Operations Manager. I am experienced in Recruitment/HR, Mentoring, Equality/inclusion, Policy & Process, and delivering projects across the public & private sectors. I am not afraid to challenge executive leadership to ensure TGS remains accountable, impartial, and transparent - prioritising the success & well-being of pupils above all else. I look forward to working collaboratively with the Governing board as a "critical friend".

Term of Office 22.04.22 - 21.04.26
Student Welfare & Behaviour committee
Human Resources committee

Navneet Dhillon

Governor

Co-opted



I am excited to be a Governor at TGS because I believe good education for an individual ensures a better society for all. I am a practising solicitor and dual qualified as a chartered management accountant. I previously worked in the private sector before moving to the public sector where I currently work. I understand the challenges faced by organisations and the need for good governance and effective decision making. I hope to use my professional skills to support the governing body and senior leadership team at TGS to continue running a successful school. I view it as a privilege to be on the governing body of such a school. I attended an all-girls school in the North East of England myself and thoroughly enjoyed the school environment and opportunities it presented to me to prepare for adult life.

Term of Office 12.05.22 - 11.05.26
Finance, Assets & Audit committee

Simon Laycock

Governor

Parent



I have been a TGS parent since September 2020 when my daughter entered Year 7. I am keen to use my experience in public administration, business, professional management and voluntary work to help the school achieve the best possible all-round education for its students. With the help and involvement of parents and the wider community, the school can build on its considerable strengths in the face of considerable challenges in difficult times.

Term of Office 25.10.22 - 24.10.26
Quality of Education committee
Student Welfare & Behaviour committee
EAL Link Governor

Helen Spiro

Governor

Co-opted



I'm very excited about taking up this role as Governor at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form. I have either worked or volunteered in the Third Sector all my career. For much of my career I worked as a Couples Counsellor and Family Therapist. At present I am very involved with a Care Home for the Elderly in Clapham. I worked there for 8 years as the Volunteers' Coordinator and since retiring have been a volunteer on two days a week. It will be a big change to be involved in the education world although I have had a lot of experience working with young volunteers at the Care Home. I have always been interested in education, feeling strongly that each and every child should be given the opportunity to reach their potential whilst, at the same time, enjoying the stimulation of excellent teaching. To achieve this, students need to feel safe and cared for hence my interest in student well-being and general pastoral care.

Student Welfare & Behaviour committee
Term of Office 17.10.23 - 16.10.27

Sophia Freckmann

Governor

Co-opted



I'm excited and honoured to join the School Governors team at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form. I am passionate about education and have worked in different areas of the sector: as a Teaching Aide in the International School of Prague, an English Teacher in rural Japan, and I now work in higher education, at the LSE. My studies have been in Psychology, most recently completing my MSc in Psychology of Economic Life at the LSE. Outside of work, I am a passionate volunteer and have helped in different areas of the Third Sector. Volunteering is not only a way for me to give back to my community, but also helps with my commitment to my own life-long learning.

I consider myself inherently international: I hold Irish, American and Greek nationalities, and have been able to live and learn in different countries, having spent my developmental years in both Greece and Czechia; later moving to the UK and Japan as an adult. This enabled me to directly experience different cultures and languages from a young age, work and study alongside colleagues of diverse backgrounds, and has given me a natural open-mindedness and curiosity towards other cultures. I'm excited to bring my diverse experiences and international background to discussions in supporting the academy in achieving excellence in its values and mission.

Quality of Education committee
Term of Office 17.10.23 - 16.10.27

Jolande Botha-Smith

Governor

Headteacher



Ex- officio staff governor by virtue of her post in the academy.

Has responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the Academy and for the implementation of the strategic framework agreed by the Governing Body.

Child Protection Officer

NPQLTD programme facilitator

Angie Williams

Clerk to
Governors/Company
Secretary

Support Staff



The Clerk's role is to:

- Provide advice to the governing body on governance, constitutional and procedural matters
- Provide effective administrative support to the governing body and its committees
- Ensure the governing body is properly constituted
- Manage information effectively in accordance with legal requirements

Governors can be contacted via the Clerk/Company Secretary as follows:

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