



# Meet Our Governors!

**We've had a few changes to our Governing Body in recent times with a new face or two. So here is our current, and rather fabulous line up!**

We are very lucky to have such a dedicated, enthusiastic and skilled Governing Body, who do such a good job of being a critical friend and avid supporters of the school. As headteacher I feel blessed to have a team of Governors who I know will provide the right amount of support, whilst remaining steadfast in the role of holding me to account.

So what do they get up to? They attend strategic meetings at least six times a year; they are regular visitors to the school and they have link roles which involve a strategic focus on specific areas such as SEND, Health and Safety, safeguarding etc. One thing they don't do is make decisions about the day to day operational management of the school.

Keep an eye open for regular newsletters which will provide you with information from each link governor.



**Nicky Shaw** (Chair of Governors) - link role is **Safeguarding**



**Ben Smith** (Vice Chair of Governors) - link role is **Health and Safety**.



**Tom Blackshaw** - link role is **Special Educational Need and Disabilities**.



**Tracy Pearson** - link role is **Early Years Foundation Stage**



**Paul Crook** - link roles include **Sport Premium** and **Pupil Premium**.



**Amanda Warttig** - link role is **wellbeing**



**Tim Orr** - link role is the **wider curriculum**



**Kate Brown** (deputy head) **staff representative**



**Tom visited school recently to explore SEND provision and practices in school, and to have a good look for himself at how children with additional needs are supported here at school. This is what he had to say about his visit...**

*As a Parent Governor, I believe it's important to visit the school to gain a better understanding. Recently I had the pleasure of visiting school and joined Mrs Gibbins in a tour of the school. I visited every classroom.*

*I was hugely impressed with the politeness and engagement of the children. Each time I entered a classroom, or passed a child, they were friendly and said hello!*

*In classes of approximately 25 children there is a huge range of abilities and capabilities; I was delighted to see so much inclusive learning. When I went to school, those who required additional support, were taken to one side or out of the room, which could then impact their social skills. At Thurlstone they are part of the classroom and supported by teachers/teaching assistants and remain very much a part of their class, whilst having the facility of a quiet space if needed.*

*Overall there is a real sense of pride from the students and staff at Thurlstone School and I'm looking forward to my visit next term.*

