

Governor news!

The Governing board has recognized the importance of ensuring parents know who we are and what we do. To all new parents at Meridian, we offer you a huge welcome to our lovely school. Here is our Autumn Term 2023 update!



Meet Nicky Packham, Co Vice-Chair

I became a governor at Meridian in January 2021. I had 2 children at the school, had been involved in the PTFA and was keen to offer more support. I have a background in early years and safeguarding children, having worked in this area for twenty years. Apart from being one of two co-vice chairs, my role also includes English and Phonics monitoring, EYFS and Safeguarding monitoring as well as GDPR and Information Governance. I find this role very rewarding, and my favourite thing to do is come into school and see the school in action. If you see me around the school, please feel free to say hi!

What do we do?

The Governing Board has three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of the School's Vision, Ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Full Governing Body (FGB) meets about 10 times per year there is also a Pay Committee which meets once per year. **All minutes of our meetings and contact details can be found on the school website along with other details about us – so please do have a look!**

[Meridian Community Primary School & Nursery - Governors \(meridianschool.co.uk\)](https://meridianschool.co.uk)

What have we been up to recently?

At the end of the summer term the Governing body were kept busy doing monitoring visits in the school, looking at safeguarding in detail with the Senior Leadership team and undertaking training to ensure we can be effective in our roles. Since the new term began Governors have been busy planning more visits to the school and looking at what we want to achieve this year.

Meridian successfully completed their OPAL assessment at the beginning of October and remain a Platinum Award school for playtimes. One of our Governors attended this assessment and was also very impressed - well done and thank you to the Meridian team for ensuring that playtimes are safe and purposeful to support children's right to play.

Governors also attended a school inset day on the new vision for Meridian at the beginning of term very exciting! We've also been supporting the school with policy development and our SEND Lead Governor has visited the new facility to see the progress being made with the preparations for opening. Our parent Governor recently attended the parent forum. Led by the pastoral team, and very much enjoyed the friendly networking opportunity and the support on offer.

Did you know?

Each Governor takes on a lead area, such as Safeguarding, Health & Safety or Finance, as well as subject lead areas.

Vacancies:

We are looking for a skilled and enthusiastic volunteer to join the Board, with relevant experience in either business or community work/volunteering and with a keen interest in education.

And finally.... The Governors would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful clerk Barbara who stepped down from her role as clerk over the summer– and joined us as a Governor! And a huge welcome to our new clerk Sally who is already proving to be a great asset to the team.