

AUTUMN TERM 2025-2026

GOVERNOR

NEWSLETTER



Welcome!

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governing Body would like to welcome you to our autumn term newsletter. As governors, we work behind the scenes to support the school's leadership, champion our pupils, and ensure the very best education for every child.

This short newsletter is our way of keeping you informed about what we do, the progress the school is making, and how you can get involved in shaping the future of our school.

We hope this update gives you a clear picture of what we've been focusing on and our priorities for the year ahead.

- *Hawley Governors*

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WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?

The Governing Body is currently made up of 8 governors, including the headteacher, 1 staff governor, parent and co-opted governors (and we await to appoint a local authority governor).

The Hawley Governing Body is chaired by Craig Woolnough, with Duncan Macgregor serving as Vice Chair.

Governors are volunteers drawn from the parent community, staff, and the local area. Our role is to provide strategic direction, hold the school leadership to account, and ensure the school's financial health and educational standards. We do not get involved in the day-to-day running of the school – that is the responsibility of the Headteacher and staff.

If you are interested in joining Hawley Governors, please see the recruitment section in this newsletter for more details.

MEET THE GOVERNING BOARD

CRAIG WOOLNOUGH

Chair

Craig has had a diverse career, from project management, to serving as a police officer up to Inspector for 13 years, before moving into cyber security. Craig is passionate when it comes to equality, people with learning difficulties and mental health. Outside of work he enjoys: rock climbing, singing, playing guitar & skiing. Craig is a parent at Hawley Primary school and is eager to see students thrive.



DUNCAN MACGREGOR

Vice Chair

Duncan spent most of his career building Television stations across the globe and is now the Director/owner of a small manufacturing company. Living locally, his children previously attended Hawley and he is a co-opted Governor. He used to coach both football and cricket but can now be seen on the Open Mic circuit in London, having recently attained a MA in Comedy Writing.

MEET THE GOVERNING BOARD CONTINUED

HANNAH TAYLOR

Co-opted Governor

Hannah is a qualified teacher and former member of staff at Hawley, now working as a web developer, graphic designer, and education consultant. She is passionate about supporting children, not only academically but also in their social and emotional wellbeing. Hannah holds a First-Class BA Honours in Creative and Professional Writing from St Mary's University and a PGCE in Primary Education. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling and spending time with her family.



CHRIS MACKINLAY

Co-opted Governor

Chris is a church pastor at The Beacon Church in Farnborough and serves as a co-opted governor at the school. He's also a proud Hawley parent, currently with children in Years 3 and 5. Before becoming a pastor, he taught in secondary schools. Chris is our SEND link governor and has a real passion for seeing children with special educational needs access the support they need.

MICHELLE SNOWBALL

Parent Governor

Michelle is an Information Digital Technology Manager at a global energy company. With a strong background in mentoring and a passion for education, she brings strategic insight, operational expertise, and a commitment to students' development and safeguarding to her role as parent governor. She is deeply invested in fostering inclusive, high-performing learning environments for both teachers and students and is excited to support the school's vision and values. She enjoys going to the gym and teaching badminton over the weekend.



SUSIE BOARDMAN

Co-opted Governor

As a Hawley parent, Susie recognises the importance of supporting the passionate staff at Hawley to ensure that each child receives the best education they can in an environment that enables them to thrive. Susie has years of experience working as an NHS midwife, a health researcher and within psychological services, skills transferrable in considering the strategic aims and vision of Hawley primary. In addition to this her previous experience working as support staff enriched her understanding of the curriculum and the specific strengths and needs of the school.

MEET THE GOVERNING BOARD CONTINUED

Name	Roles and Responsibilities
Craig Woolnough	Chair of Governors - Parent Governor, Safeguarding Lead, Leadership and Governance, Pay Committee
Duncan Macgregor	Vice Chair of Governors - Co-opted Governor, Health & Safety Lead, Inclusion Lead, Pay Committee, Headteacher Appraisal Committee
Hannah Taylor	Governor - Co-opted, Curriculum Lead, Development & Training Governor, Pay Committee, Headteacher Appraisal Committee, Leadership and Governance
Chris Mackinlay	Governor - Co-opted, SEND Lead, Complaints
Michelle Snowball	Governor - Parent, Headteacher Appraisal Committee, Personal Development and Wellbeing Lead, Attendance and Behaviour Lead
Susie Boardman	Governor - Co-opted, Early Years Lead, Achievement Lead
Julie Phillips	Governor - Staff
Sandra Ellis	Clerk to the Governing Body

GOVERNING BOARD - END OF TERM

RACHEL MOGG

End of Term

A heartfelt thank you to Rachel Mogg for the time, energy and leadership she has given as a governor and Co-Chair. With her term at an end, she is stepping down from the governing board, and we appreciate everything she has done for our school.

HAWLEY REVIEW

Last academic year was another successful one at Hawley Primary, and we are grateful for the dedication of our staff, the support of our families, and the enthusiasm of our pupils.

This year, Governors have been working closely with staff to improve learning across the school. We have been actively involved in school improvement planning and are supporting staff as they make headway in enhancing teaching and learning.

The school has been buzzing with exciting activities this term, including:

- A drama workshop
- Visits to Winchester Science Centre
- A whole-school French Day
- Trips to Buster Ancient Farm
- Our Harvest Festival

We are pleased with the progress so far and excited to see what the rest of the year brings!



Governor Training

This term governors undertook various training courses including:

- Safeguarding
- Prevent Duty
- School Data & Pupil Outcomes
- Pupil Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Cyber security
- Effective Governor Visits
- Induction for New Governors
- Development for DTG



● Governor Recruitment

Hawley Primary is looking for dedicated governors to help shape the future of our school. Governors play a vital role in supporting staff, monitoring school performance, and contributing to strategic decisions that ensure all children thrive.

If you are interested in making a positive impact and being part of our school community, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the school.

MONITORING

Governors have been actively involved in school monitoring this term, visiting to observe and support key areas of development. Recent visits have focused on SEND provision, where governors were pleased to see the impact of the school's new professional development programme designed to strengthen staff expertise and inclusive practice. We also spent time exploring the curriculum, carrying out staff and pupil voice sessions and discussion with SLT to gain a deeper understanding of how subjects are taught and experienced across the school. Governors are using these insights to strategically support staff as they continue to refine and enhance the curriculum.

Looking ahead, we are exploring ways to improve the use of technology in the classroom to enrich learning opportunities. Governors have also contributed to the creation of the School Improvement Plan, ensuring it reflects both the school's current strengths and its next steps for development. The focus of our monitoring this term has been understanding where the school and staff are in their roles, and how we can best support further improvement within what is already a thriving and continually improving environment.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We're delighted that the children have successfully returned to school, with most year groups now full. The school environment has been significantly enhanced, with the KS2 area beautifully decorated featuring science and music displays, alongside a new Y5/6 celebration board and an Equality and Diversity board in our foyer - all designed by our children themselves. We also have a new 'Allsorts' Room which has been transformed into a multi-purpose space for the whole school.

The school has continued to invest in staff development to better support our children, and the whole team has benefitted from from an inspiring 'Art of Brilliance' positive mindset session. We are excited to continue to improve the school environment for both staff and students.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your children have had a strong start to the new academic year at Hawley.

The Autumn Term was, as always, a busy and productive one for both the governing body and school. Staff have worked hard throughout the term to deliver a stimulating curriculum, maintain a safe and supportive environment, and finish the year with a range of festive events and performances.

With an amazing Christmas Fayre run by the PTA and their newly elected members and volunteers, we are incredibly grateful to them and everyone who supports the school in giving their time and energy.

We were pleased to welcome two new governors, Susie Boardman and Michelle Snowball, who have already begun to bring their skills and experience to the team. We also say thank you to Rachel Mogg for her time and dedication as she steps down from her role.

Each governor takes on a number of responsibilities in addition to serving on the Full Governing Board (FGB). We keep a close eye on a wide range of areas, all linked to the priorities set out in the School Improvement Plan.

I hope the articles in our latest newsletter give you a sense of the work the governors are doing to support the school and its continued development.

As we break up for Christmas, I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved rest and a great festive period with your families.

Craig Woolnough
Chair of Governors

