

Governors

Respect, Nurture, Inspire

Meet the Local Governing Board

*Our learning community
Respects, Nurtures & Inspires*



Diane Thompson,
Head of School

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Head of School at Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School, beginning on the 1st of September 2023. With over 20 years of successful teaching and leadership experience in primary schools, I have held a variety of senior roles including Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Curriculum, and more. Additionally, I am a qualified Executive Coach, actively engaged in a range of coaching, CPD and consultancy work within the education sector. With 8 years of experience as a Headteacher, this marks my third Headship. I recognise that a successful, happy school relies on all of us working together. Therefore, I am looking forward to collaborating with the entire school community, to build upon the exceptional achievements that Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School has accomplished thus far.



Andrew Muckle
Parent Governor

Hello, I'm Andrew, a Parent Governor at Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School. I am a parent to two children both at infant school and wanted to take on the role to both represent parents as well as ensuring the school continues to be an excellent place of growth and development for the children.

I work as a Regional Operations Manager for an Academy Trust in Croydon and have previously worked in Local Authority (Public Health), the charity sector and the NHS.

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Alleena David,
Community Governor

Hi, I'm Alleena, a dedicated individual pursuing a law degree with a passion for education. I bring a fresh perspective and a commitment to fostering a nurturing learning environment. My academic background equips me with analytical skills and a keen eye for detail, ensuring effective governance. Committed to enhancing early childhood education, I aim to contribute actively, collaborating with parents, teachers, and the community.

Through my studies, I have developed a profound understanding of policies and procedures, which I believe will be valuable in supporting the growth and success of our young learners at the school.



Penny Stephenson,
Staff Governor

I am delighted to have been appointed as Staff Governor and have taken on the role from September 2023. I have been part of the SLT team at Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School for 9 years and currently have the responsibility of SENCO, DDSL and Mental Health and Wellbeing lead. With over 20 years of successful teaching and leadership experience in primary schools, I have held a variety of senior roles including curriculum subject leads along with strategic planning. I have built up strong relationships with all the staff and community at school and I am looking forward to building all the wonderful work and achievements that Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School has accomplished over the years. I will support the Governing body to ensure that we strive to ensure our children achieve the best outcomes possible and become life long learners.



Rosalyn Vaughan,
Community Governor

I moved to Orpington 10 years ago but it's only since my commuting to London changed during the pandemic that I really started to explore the local community and areas. In my professional life I support organisations with digital transformation and delivery, which ranges from leadership coaching on vision and strategy, through to project managing work within teams. Through the work that my parents have done in foster caring I have an appreciation for the importance of formative care, early education and safeguarding, and the important role that infant schools play in children's lives. I'm hoping that my skill set of bringing strategic clarity and alignment will help Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School continue to give the best start to its pupils.