



# Stathern Primary School Governing Body

## *All About Us*



*If you are interested in joining the Governing Body, please contact Clare Allen via the school office – [theoffice@stathern.leics.sch.uk](mailto:theoffice@stathern.leics.sch.uk)*



My name is Clare Allen and I have lived in Stathern, with my husband Mark, for 17 years. I have two children, Danny age 13 and Henry age 8. I have been involved in education for 26 years as a teacher, governor and adviser. I was the Headteacher of a local primary school before leaving to be at home with the boys. Whilst being a stay-at-home mummy, I graduated with a master's degree in Applied Child Psychology. This allowed me to really explore how children develop cognitively and how school contexts make such an impact upon their personal and social development.

I work as a governance and school improvement consultant for the National Governance Association and Leicestershire County Council. I am also a Trustee for The Priory Federation of Academies; a large multi-academy trust made up of primary, secondary and special schools.

What I love the most about Stathern Primary School is how the staff team are committed to provide a curriculum that is relevant and exciting. The learning makes a difference to the lives of children and it promotes the desire for our young people to make a difference to others and the world in which they live.

I am Chair of Governors and responsible for Head Teacher Performance Management.



I am Ken Bray. Joan and I have been resident in Stathern since 2002 when we moved out of Nottingham. We have three children and three grandchildren. Since I retired from a lifetime as a Logistics Manager at Boots the Chemist in 2005, I have been involved in volunteering in the village and have served on both the Parish Council and the School Governors. Currently, I am Vice Chairman of the School Governing Board and Chairman of the Parish Council. The Parish Council has recently completed a three year project to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. For school I am Chairman of the Finance Committee, serve on the Health & Safety Committee, Pay Committee and am the GDPR governor. I find the two roles are a good balance. Fortunately, it still leaves me time for a little tennis, cricket and birdwatching.

*If you are interested in joining the Governing Body, please contact Clare Allen via the school office – [theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk](mailto:theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk)*



My name is Liz Foulston and I live in Melton Mowbray. My son is now in his final year at Stathern Primary School and my daughter also attended until July 2021 but has now moved to a Special School. We wanted a village school for my children and we chose Stathern for its care of the whole child. I have been very impressed at how they have taken care of both my children.

I have been a Parent Governor since Feb 2020. I am very excited to get the opportunity to serve the school as a Governor and be able to be involved in helping the school be the best it can be for all our children. I am passionate about all children receiving the best possible education especially in their early years as this really sets them up for a lifetime of learning.

I am a Private Tutor in Maths and Science for older children mainly at GCSE. I also own a shop with my husband in Melton Mowbray that sells board games, WarHammer and Trading Card Games.



I am Karen Lambert and I am proud to be the new Headteacher at Stathern Primary School. I have been working as a senior teacher in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire for 25 years and am excited by the prospect of leading Stathern School, building on its current successes and evolving the school to maintain the high standards that people rightly expect from it, whilst nurturing the children, encouraging compassion and ensuring the pupils in my care strive to have a positive and huge impact in the world! I have been involved in governance for over 20 years and have been a parent and community governor in local primary schools and a local secondary school, recently supporting a failing school. I have spent a lot of time working with Ofsted in that school and other successful schools and feel I have a great grasp on the current educational landscape. I feel incredibly lucky already to be part of such a passionate and dedicated team of staff and governors that really has the interests of the children at the heart of what they do. I have felt amazingly supported by the team as we enter a new and different era in education, forging a way ahead with clear strategic direction but being supported to ensure that our operational needs are supported and met. The children at Stathern Primary School all have unique interests, talents and passions and watching them grow and learn with the rest of the Stathern Family humbles me. I feel privileged to work with all the Stathern stakeholders

*If you are interested in joining the Governing Body, please contact Clare Allen via the school office – [theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk](mailto:theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk)*



My name is Helen Widdowson. I have been teaching for 18 years now and joined Stathern Primary School in 2018 as Senior Lead Teacher, Class 4 teacher and also as staff governor. I consider myself very privileged to work in a school with such an incredible ethos and vision where the children really are at the heart of all we do. My passion lies within the classroom and the school's making a difference vision - ensuring pupils are taught a broad and balanced curriculum relevant to today's ever changing world. I am immensely proud of all that we do here at Stathern to value every child and further their academic skills, varied personal interests and develop their social skills and character growth ready for their future.

When not in the classroom, I spend my time running around after my two very active children, Ethan aged 10 and Sophie aged 8. Between being a mum and a teacher I find the time to squeeze in my own fitness, running being the sport of choice. I am a true believer in the positive impact that being physically active has on a person and love nothing more than to challenge myself with new distances and speeds - anything from a speedy 5km to an ultra-marathon.



My name is Marcus Helps and I have lived in the village for the last 5 years. I moved here from Bingham with my wife Jo, two boys – Arthur (7) and Euan (5) and terrier Ronnie. Arthur is in Class 3 at Stathern and his brother has just moved into Class 2. My background is in multi-site management of pubs, bars and restaurants, but a few years ago I ended this career and retrained as a joiner/cabinet maker. As well as renovating our place, I set up in business making bespoke wooden furniture from my home workshop.

I believe in getting involved in local community activity wherever you can add value, and have been wowed by the school itself, the staff and governor teams and the shared passion and drive to deliver the best possible experience for the kids.

I am on the School Development Committee, Chair the Health & Safety Committee and am the Training & Development Governor.

*If you are interested in joining the Governing Body, please contact Clare Allen via the school office – [theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk](mailto:theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk)*



My name is Lisa Leathborough and I have lived in Stathern since December 2013 with my husband, David, and our two children, both of whom are at Stathern Primary School: Mia is in class 4 and Adam is in class 2. I work full time as a senior legal inspector with Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate and am also an assistant coroner. I joined the governing body in August 2017 and am currently the governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs and Disability. I am a member of the School Development Committee as well as chairing the group of governors looking at village and school growth. Being a part of the governing body at Stathern Primary School has been incredibly rewarding; I particularly enjoy visiting the school for monitoring visits and witnessing first hand the quality teaching and the focus on supporting the children to develop their potential. I feel privileged to be involved with the school and involved in shaping the future for the current and future pupils.



Hi, my name is Sarah Cross and I have lived in Stathern for nearly 7 years and been a governor for over 4 years.

I have 3 sons, a daughter and a stepdaughter. My eldest son (11) has just left Stathern School going up to Secondary, but my middle (8) and youngest (7) sons are still there, in years 4 and 3. My daughter, (just about to turn 5) is just starting in Reception and my 15 year old Step Daughter is in Year 11 at Secondary School.

I love the school and everything that it stands for, especially the family and community feel where the children of all ages mix and support each other so well. The caring and resilience that all the children at the school show is even more important in this current unusual world that we are living in. I am really enjoying the privilege of being able to support the School, the staff and the children in my role as Safeguarding Governor, as well as being part of the Finance Committee.

I have worked for Pepsico for over 11 years, where I am currently their European Supply Chain Digital Director.

*If you are interested in joining the Governing Body, please contact Clare Allen via the school office – [theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk](mailto:theoffice@Stathern.leics.sch.uk)*



My name is Becky Hill and I moved to Stathern in June 2021 with my husband Steve, my labradoodle Jed, and my dad Steve. Shortly afterwards, we were joined in the village by my sister Sam, my niece Libby (14), and my nephew Alfie (10), who is in his last year at Stathern Primary School. We're a close-knit family and do everything as one strong family unit. We have all loved being a part of the local community, having previously lived in a city environment in central Leicester. I am personally looking forward to giving back by offering my commitment as a proactive and supportive governor. I am in a fortunate position where I am able to volunteer my time and have the flexibility with my current job to give my all as a Governor.

I work full time as the Managing Partner of a large Law Firm and previously held Director roles being responsible for leading Law Firm Operations. I am driven by doing the right thing. Although I only started as a Governor in the summer of 2022, I have extensive experience in legal governance and, more than anything, I have a commitment to 'making things great' with a desire to support Stathern Primary School.

I believe that all children should be equipped with the knowledge and skills to enable them to have choice in their lives and access to opportunities that are right for them. I am passionate about learning and development and supporting individuals and groups to realise their potential. I am keen to ensure that no matter where someone has come from, all are entitled to a good education and a solid starting point in life. I hope to support this by being a part of the Safeguarding team and Finance Committee.



My name is Katherine. I am a full-time civil servant & I have lived in Stathern for nearly three & a half years with my partner, Darren, a self-employed landscape gardener. We both moved here from Melton, & we love the balance between the activity & enthusiasm of the villagers, & the peace & beauty of the village & its surroundings.

Whilst I myself have no children as of yet, I understand the importance of education & nurture from an early age & the potential negative impact of the lack thereof in later life, which is why school governance appealed to me. Children really are the future, & that responsibility lies in our hands.

I aim to bring the best of my personality, life-experience & ideas to Stathern Primary School, & look forward to meeting & supporting the children, staff & parents.

***NURTURE, INSPIRE, DISCOVER, CREATE***