

Dave Smithers

Chair of Governors - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Dave Smithers is an experienced school governor, joining the governing body in Autumn 2022. Dave is a qualified teacher and head teacher having spent 20 years working in East London. He then moved over to working as a Commissioner of Early Years services for Lambeth. He worked across health, social care and charities to provide services for pregnant women and their very young children. This included training in delivering Antenatal Classes, attachment based parenting programmes for care givers and positive relationship support for co-parenting.



Sue Burton

Vice Chair - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Sue started my career as a Registered Nurse and then became a Registered Midwife. Her career path led her into management and she held a senior board level role within the healthcare sector for many years. During this time, she achieved a Master of Science degree in Leadership and Management at Southampton University, where she developed an interest in education. This led her to change her career direction from the health sector.



George Speller

Co-opted Governor - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

George is Deputy Head at Ryde School having previously been Head of Lower School (Y7-9) and Head of Science. With a Primary Years PGCE and PhD in palaeoecology from Cambridge, George has experience of working and teaching in all levels of education from Early Years to University settings both in the maintained and independent sectors. George has specific interests in digital and carbon literacy, and building programmes that link experiential learning with knowledge, skills and character development.



Wendy Dent

Co-opted Governor - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Wendy is a co-opted governor and have been a member of the Governing Body at Gatten & Lake Primary School since January 2019. Her involvement with Gatten & Lake Primary began in 2018, supporting children and their families by delivering Play Therapy sessions as a bought in service in school. She has worked in primary educational settings for thirty years and qualified as a Play Therapist in 2008.



Amy Summers

Parent Governor - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Amy joined the Governing team in early 2024. Having relocated to the Island 18-months prior, Amy was keen to be involved within the local community by getting to know parents and representing them, whilst supporting the school both her two young children attend. With over 17 years of experience in marketing, communications, economic development, tourism, and sustainability, Amy brings a wealth of knowledge from her background within the public and private sector.



Rebecca Day

Executive Headteacher - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present



Jeanne Jones

Co-opted Governor - Term of Office: 29th Jan 2026 - Present

Jeanne first joined Gatten & Lake as a School Reader; she was recently voted National School Reader of the Year. She continues to be very active in the promotion of reading, currently being part of a team bringing Reading Bags to some 1,400 pupils in the Bay Area.

With a background in Education and Commerce, Jeanne brings a wide experience to our Governing Body; currently her main responsibility is in the Finance of both schools.



Barry Grant

Local Authority Governor - Term of Office: 25th March 2025 - Present

Barry joined the Governing Body in 2025, having been a governor at various schools over the past 19 years. He runs his own health and safety and training consultancy business and has previously worked in secondary schools for 20 years prior to this. He brings a wealth of knowledge in health and safety.



Lanah Moody

Parent Governor - Term of Office: 6th Jan 2026 - Present

Lanah has been an English Lecturer at the Isle of Wight College for 10 years. Throughout her career, she has developed a deep interest in SEND and is committed to helping the school create an inclusive curriculum that supports every child. Lanah is proud to use her decade of educational leadership to help our pupils thrive and reach their full potential.



Julia O'Connell

Co-opted Governor - Term of Office: 29th Jan 2026 - Present

Julia was born on the island and her son is the fourth generation of her family to attend Gatten & Lake Primary School. Most of Julia's working life has been spent working within the public sector, across Children's Services. She is passionate about SEND and ensuring all children have the chance to thrive in a learning environment that provides high-quality education and promotes inclusivity.



Eddie Sherwin

Staff Governor - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Eddie has been a teacher at Gatten and Lake for 14 years undertaking numerous roles in his time. He is currently the Year 6 teacher and is an Assistant Headteacher alongside other leadership responsibilities for English, PE and computing. Prior to teaching Eddie worked in outdoor education, both in the UK and further afield in Australia.



Alison Lockey

Clerk to Governors - Term of Office: 1st Oct 2024 - Present

Alison became the Federation Clerk after spending two years as Clerk for the Greenmount Governing Body. She has a good understanding of school processes and procedures, previously serving as a governor for 6 years and also works at Greenmount as the IT Manager.

