



## Sutton in Craven C.E (V.C) Primary School

*Flourish together, in the love of God, to live life in all its fullness.*

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Headteacher: Mrs O Gibbons



12.11.2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

After 5 years of dedicated commitment to this voluntary role, our Chair of Governors, Simon Garner, has decided to step down. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him and his family for his many hours of hard work, mostly behind the scenes, in supporting school through a particularly busy 5 years. This included recruiting two Head Teachers and the challenge and significant impact of the pandemic. Simon has worked tirelessly to support the Head Teachers, the school, and lead the Governing Board through his time as Chair.

As a Governing Board we would like to also take this opportunity to praise and thank Mrs Gibbons and all her school staff team - to quote Simon Garner their efforts have been 'nothing short of heroic.' As is so often the case, much of the commitment, work and effort falls outside of the typical school day and is not always seen.

Having been a Parent Governor on the Full Governing Board for nearly 4 years, I have agreed to take over the role of Chair of Governors. As well as being a parent (my daughter started this school in 2010 and left Year 6 in July, my son remains a pupil at school in Year 4) I work in the NHS as a Speech and Language Therapist. As the new Chair of Governors I am looking forward to working more closely with Mrs Gibbons to support her in her passionate leadership of the school as she aims high for all our children in school whilst keeping them safe and developing a love for learning. Despite the challenges over the previous couple of years, amazing improvements have been seen throughout school - the impact of which is seen in children's learning and progress, building and classroom improvements and developing the vision and community of Sutton-in-Craven Church of England School.

Mrs Gibbons has a passion to continue to see progress and development in every area of school and learning: to make improvements where needed and to consolidate the positive learning and development that is already being seen. I look forward to supporting Mrs Gibbons and her staff team in the vision of empowering children to experience life in all its fullness and to flourish and thrive in courage, peace and love as learners and individuals, and, as a church school, grounding this in the love of God. The Governing Board will be in touch further to seek your opinion on aspects of this process - parents contribute to this and I know Mrs Gibbons appreciates your support.

The Governing Board's core functions include ensuring clarity of vision and strategic direction of school; holding leaders to account for the educational performance of pupils, and overseeing financial performance. I will endeavour to follow in Simon's footsteps and chair the board in completing these strategic functions successfully.

Kind regards,

*Deborah Bacon*

Chair of Governors

