



News From
YOUR GOVERNORS

**Bishop Carpenter
CE Primary School**
Warriner Multi Academy Trust



Winter Update

Those of you who were at the Advent service earlier this month may remember Rev Ronald Hawkes encouraging us not to rush about – I am reminding myself of this now as Christmas is upon us!

As, sadly for us, his retirement approaches, did you know that he has attended and contributed to countless meetings and courses as a BCS Governor? My enormous thanks to him for his inspirational work and particularly in his capacity as a school Governor where he has helped me personally to identify our priorities. I asked him for a few words as we say goodbye from the Governing Body and wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement.

Merry Christmas to you and Yours, Sue

Why do we have Governors?

We must have a Governing Body by law.

Governance is about overseeing the success of the school. It is about agreeing priorities and monitoring progress towards them, such as, by scrutinising data and visiting the school. It is about looking over the horizon and mitigating any risks.

To do this, Governors receive training from the WMAT and external bodies. They also have DBS checks.

It is a “strategic” role, not an operational one. It is not about running or managing the school – that is the job of the Head Teacher and senior staff.

If you would like to become a BCS Governor, please email c.musgrove@warriner.oxon.sch.uk



A Message from Father Ronald

In February 2020 I retire after 44½ years of work - 12 of them as a teacher, 32 as a parish priest and almost all of them as a school governor.

It has been a great joy to be involved with Bishop Carpenter School particularly with the work of the SIAMS Committee. I suggested to Dominic Murphy (3 head teachers ago!) that we could have a Family Service in school sometimes, and so we started. Now we have a Worship Team - with children queuing to be members, we have explored prayer through BeSpace, I have started doing Godly Play once or twice a term, and the children have taken on the ethos behind Open The Book as they make the worship they devise lively, relevant and inspiring.

I keep saying we should write a book about what we have done!

We rightly deserved our "Good" for the SIAMS inspection last time and I would expect an Outstanding next time.

I have been shown great kindness by the teachers, the governors, the parents and specially the children during my 7½ years association with BCS. Thank you to you all.

Merry Christmas! and a Happy, Peaceful and Healthy 2020. Fr Ronald.

Being a Governor at BCS

Hi, I'm Chris Hutchins, I've been a governor at a Bishop Carpenter for a couple of years now.

As a governing body we scrutinise all school matters, but also have our own individual responsibilities that we look after and report back on. I look after Health and Safety matters at the school as part of my role and work closely with Anne Davies to ensure we run a safe and secure school for all.

Being a governor does require time to be given up across the year to help drive the school and support Nikki and her team in making it a great place for children to learn and grow, but this time is rewarding when you see how you have an impact. I have also found that I have grown myself in the role, and that being a governor has also given back to me, and my own personal development.

Who Are Our Governors?

We all meet 6 times a year plus extras for school monitoring visits, training, H&S, SIAMS (Church inspection), safeguarding and – when they come - OFSTED. There is more information in our previous updates on the BCS website <https://www.bishopcarpenterschool.com/school-governors>



Mrs Nichola Stevens...
Head Teacher



Mrs Sue Priest
Director appt Chair of
Governors



Mrs Michelle Jarvis
Vice Chair and Parent
Governor



Rev Ronald Hawke



Mrs R Peverill
Staff Governor



Mr Chris Hutchins
ODBE appointed
Governor



Ms Luci Jordan
ODBE appointed
Governor



Mr Julian Woodward
Parent Governor



Mrs Miriam Ager
ODBE appointed
Governor

FAQ

Q: Where can I find school policies eg Behaviour Policy?

A: The Bishop Carpenter school website contains policies under: Information/documents and policies

Q: I have an issue with something and want to speak to the right person – who would that be?

A: It depends on the issue:

- **Class or pupil related** questions should be directed towards your class teacher
- Other **operational issues** (that relate to how the school is run) should be directed to the Head teacher, Mrs Stevenson who has an “open door” policy.
- If you want to **escalate** an issue or make a formal complaint, you should email Catherine Musgrove, WMAT Clerk, at: c.musgrove@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

With best wishes from us for a peaceful Christmas and New Year