



MERSEY VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Meet the Governors – Portraits and Profiles

As drawn by pupils of the school (with more or less good levels of accuracy!).

Chair Of Governors – Michelle Lawton



Hello! My name is Michelle Lawton and I am really excited to join Mersey Vale as a Governor. I am looking forward to supporting the school in achieving its targets and for it to continue to be a great place to learn.

As a solicitor I would help people solve a problem that they couldn't solve on their own. I now run my own business as an executive coach where I help people become the best versions of themselves. I am also studying psychology as I want to help people understand their thoughts, feelings and behaviour.

In my spare time I enjoy going running with a local running club in the Heaton, cycling and reading.

Angela O'Brien - Parent Governor



I'm Angela O'Brien, mum of two and a qualified primary school teacher.

I'm currently a stay at home mum and if I get any spare time, enjoy reading and going to the theatre.

Ismail Satwilkar - Parent Governor



Hi there! My name is Ismail Satwilkar and a father of two girls, with my eldest Rabia in nursery at Mersey Vale Primary School.

I was a bit nervous at the start but I am super excited to join the governing board at Mersey Vale to support the children, the staff and the community as a whole. I run my own architectural practice and we design buildings and spaces not just for individuals but also design buildings and spaces for the community!

Engaging with clients for what they require and need in a project allows me to put their minds at peace by sitting in the driving seat and navigating them to their dreams. This is what I am about and this is what I aim to do for Mersey Vale Primary School! I live locally in the area with my wife and two girls and I am looking forward to getting straight into my role and to help this brilliant and aspiring school to achieve big things!

Rachel Marsden – Co-opted Governor

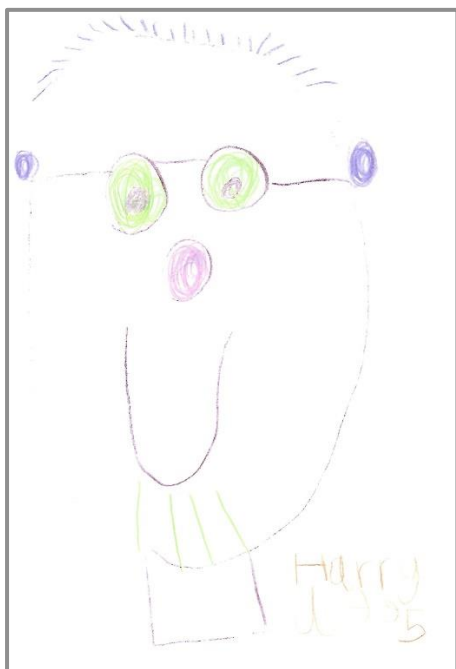


Hi, my name is Rachel Marsden and I am the mother of two teenage children, 2 cats and a snake!

I live and work in Didsbury. I have been a primary school teacher at Cavendish Primary School for nearly ten years and I absolutely love my job. I find working with children every day so rewarding. My passion at school is science and I run an after school science club each week. I enjoy carrying out the investigations as much as the children do.

This is my first post as a Governor and I am really looking forward to learning all about Mersey Vale and working with everyone.

Iain Patrick – Parent Governor



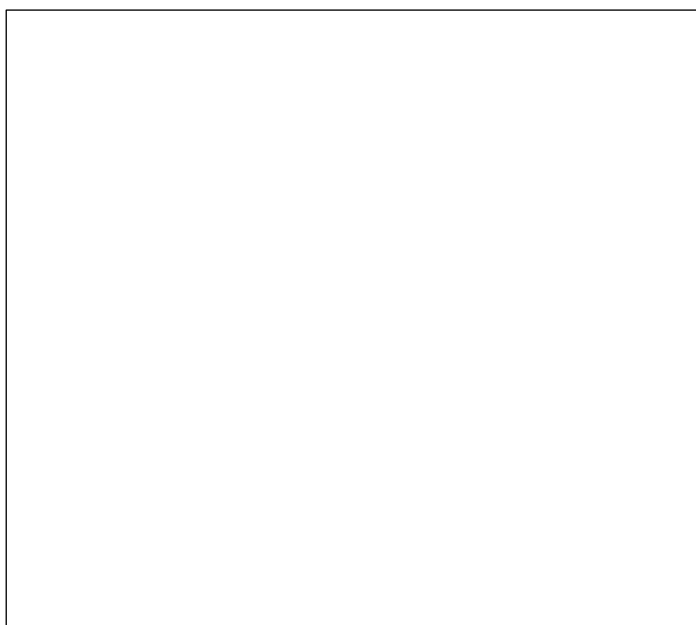
I'm Iain, and my son Harry (who turns 6 this coming January) is currently enrolled in Year 1 at Mersey Vale Primary School. I've worked for a Manchester-based Internet Service Provider (ISP) for nearly eight years, and I've called the charming neighbourhood of the Heatons home for close to 17 years. During most weekends and school holidays, you'll often find us at our holiday home near Caernarfon in North Wales.

We share a deep passion for traveling, and our journey began when Harry was just 2 years old. Together with my wife, we embarked on an incredible adventure around the world. Our journey took us to exotic destinations like Singapore, the vibrant city of Melbourne in Australia, the picturesque town of Raglan in New Zealand (for a wedding and the reason for the trip), the iconic streets of San Francisco (where my sister/nephews and Harry's Aunt/cousins reside), and the bustling heart of New York.

Our upcoming travel plans are equally exciting, as we're preparing for a trip to Vietnam and Japan in a couple of years. The main highlight? Riding the famous bullet train in Japan! Fun fact: Antarctica is the only continent I've yet to set foot on!

In addition to our adventures, I'm eagerly anticipating my role as a governor at Mersey Vale Primary School, where I hope to make a meaningful contribution to our local community and support Harry's and the other children's educational journey.

Morgan Reilly – Co-opted Governor



Samina Naseeb – Parent Governor



Hello! My name is Samina Naseeb, and I'm a proud parent of two pupils at Mersey Vale Primary School. As a Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences with a Ph.D. in Genetics, I'm deeply passionate about education and nurturing a love for learning in young minds. Alongside my research and teaching at the University of Manchester, I've organised hands-on science activities for primary school students, which has given me valuable experience in making learning fun and engaging.

Beyond my professional work, I volunteer at school events, university open days and a non-profit organisation Mothers in Science, where I've loved connecting with families and supporting educational initiatives. These experiences have shown me the importance of strong community partnerships in helping children thrive.

In my free time, you'll often find me outdoors—hiking, running, or exploring new places with my beautiful family. I'm very keen to get involved in community activities whenever I can.

I'm truly excited about the opportunity to contribute to Mersey Vale's future. By working alongside the dedicated staff, governors and parents, I hope to help our school continue to grow and inspire every child.

Let's make learning an even more wonderful adventure for every child!