



Bearness Voluntary Primary School

Queen Street, Newton Abbot

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September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am the Chair of the Newton & Teign Local Governing Board (LGB), which includes Hennock and Bearness. My son is in Reception at Hennock, and my little girl attends the Pre-School there as well – we are actually out of catchment, but joined because we love the ethos and community feel; something I now know to be a huge part of life at Bearness too.

I am often asked what being a Local Governor involves, and the answer is: visiting the schools (once or twice per term) to understand more about how they're run and the challenges they face. As Governors, our role is to ask questions about what we see, in order to check that pupils are being supported as best as they can be. There are a few meetings to attend too (six per year), and beyond that you just spend as much time as you like/are able.

As a Local Governing Body we support the schools at a local level, and report back to the Board of Trustees who oversee the Link Academy Trust as a whole. The main Board handle budgets and recruitment, so we can focus on the teaching and learning side of things (the much more interesting bit, in my opinion).

As you will know, Bearness and Hennock both recently retained their good Ofsted rating following inspection. We are delighted by that, and are now looking for some enthusiastic parents to help us continue the upward trajectory. You will need to be willing to commit time to the visits and meetings, and otherwise the only requirement is enthusiasm. This is a great opportunity to support your children's learning, and to gain some useful volunteering skills to help with personal development as well.

If you would like to have an informal chat about the role before taking things forward, then please feel free to contact me on lynda.cooper@thelink.academy.

With all best wishes,

Lynda Cooper
Chair

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