Meet The Governors

Chair of Governors (Foundation Trust Governor)

Tim McHanwell

As a previous parent of two pupils at Regent Farm I value the opportunity to play a role in shaping the future of the school in my capacity as vice-chair of governors. Being a governor allows me to influence the experience of all children and I always find all of the staff to be receptive to feedback whether this is positive or highlighting areas for improvement. My experiences as a governor have confirmed to me the dedication and commitment our staff have to all children within our community and I enjoy being a part of that in any way I can.

Vice-Chair of Governors (Co-opted Governor)

Sam McNally

I'm a parent to 4 lovely children. As a Co-opted Governor I love the opportunity to work alongside such a dynamic and passionate senior leadership team who clearly have high moral standards and strive to uphold the schools values every day. With 18 years of Leisure Based General Manager experience I'm confident that I will be able to perform my duties well. I'm proud of our school and all it has to offer and feel privileged to have the opportunity to help shape its future, as our children come through its gates.

Foundation Trust Governor

Rebecca Turner

I am the Headteacher of Archibald First School, Gosforth. I joined Archibald in September 2007 after teaching at a primary school in Newcastle for 5 years. On joining Archibald, I held the role of Key Stage 1 Team Leader until I was appointed Deputy Headteacher in October 2011 and subsequently Headteacher. In addition, I am a Director of the Gosforth Schools' Trust, and most recently, I was appointed as a governor of Regent Farm First School in September 2021. I am excited about strengthening the work of GST by working closely with other schools. I am looking forward to working collaboratively with the governors and staff of Regent Farm First school, providing both challenge and support, for the children, the school and its wider community. I believe that children should receive the very best opportunities and education through high quality teaching and learning, and I am passionate about providing a broad, rich and stimulating curriculum to the children of Regent Farm.

Co-opted Governors

Carole Drury

I became a Governor at Regent Farm First School in Spring 2024. I have worked with children for over ten years in three different primary schools. This involved supporting children from Nursery age to Year 6. I worked closely with teachers and then took small groups to develop children's progress in English and Maths.

I love spending time with children and enjoy helping on school trips at Regent Farm. I hope to bring my experience in education to the role of Governor at Regent Farm First School to support its strong reputation for child centred learning.

Jen Teulon

I have a lifelong commitment to education, and really enjoy pursuing this with Regent Farm First School. My background is that I'm a qualified teacher and have worked with most age groups from nursery to Higher Education, and adults in workplace training. Much of my career was spent in management roles in the skills world, working closely with Government policy and with networks of stakeholders across the UK. However, I've lived in the North East for over 40 years and raised my own family here. I now work on a voluntary basis with a wide range of organisations for whom I facilitate partnerships between schools in the UK and East Africa. Here at Regent Farm we continue to develop a fantastic friendship with Mercy Primary in Kenya and this means that I am often in school meeting with staff and children. Combining this with my role as a governor gives me a strong basis for supporting the learning and development of all the children at Regent Farm.

Margaret Dooner

Originally from Northumberland, I trained to become a teacher in Liverpool, after which I have lived in Newcastle for over 30 years. I have worked in both Sunderland and Northumberland, taught in all primary school year groups and the majority of my career has been in a senior leadership role.

In 2024 I joined Northumbria University as a part-time associate lecturer, supporting the Initial Teacher Training programmes. My role is an exciting one, where I support both teacher trainees and the schools where they are completing their placements. My passion, alongside teaching children, has always been to support those new to the profession and my role allows me to do this; mentoring and coaching not only the trainees, but the teachers in the schools who host them.

I am looking forward to working collaboratively with the governors and staff of Regent Farm First School providing both challenge and support, for the children, the school and its wider community. I'm joining the governing body at a very exciting time, ahead of the new build, and am aligned to the school's vision and core values, ensuring that 'all children are happy, confident individuals who can communicate effectively and thrive in anything they put their mind to – now and in the future.'

Tim Stout

I have lived in Gosforth all my life and spent the majority of my 43 years working as a teacher in the Gosforth three tier system, a system that all my family have greatly benefited from. My role before retirement in May 2026 was as Head Teacher of Gosforth East Middle School for 15 years. Prior to this I was Deputy Head at Gosforth Central Middle School. I went to school in Gosforth and my brother and sister both attended RFFS. As a member of Gosforth Schools Trust I worked closely with the Head Teacher of RFFS and am really looking forward to playing an active role in the future development of the school in its exciting 'state of the art' new building. I believe that schools should give the children in its care as many opportunities and experiences as possible so they can make informed choices as they negotiate life's opportunities and challenges.

<u>Parent Governors</u>

Clare Elliott

I was a pupil at Regent Farm First School 20+ years ago and have always had fond memories of my time here. I am now National Development Manager at Co-op and enjoy working with young people. When a position became available for a Governor I jumped at the chance to join the Governing Body. I find the role very rewarding and I love spending time in school seeing how happy the pupils

are and how well they are progressing. It's wonderful to be part of this fantastic school and seeing the children growing and realising their potential is truly special to me.

Danny Harrison

I am a parent at Regent Farm First School and an academic at Northumbria University, where I work in Design and Human-Computer Interaction. My work involves teaching and research, with particular interests in inclusive design, technology, sport and physical activity, wellbeing and sustainability.

I wanted to become a Parent Governor because Regent Farm is an important part of our family and local community, and I was keen to contribute to the school beyond being a parent. I hope to bring my experience of education, research, inclusion and strategic decision-making to the Governing Body, while keeping the experiences and needs of children at the heart of that work. I'm really looking forward to supporting and constructively challenging the school as it continues to provide a happy, inclusive and stimulating environment for all its children.

Local Authority Governor

Vacancy

Staff Governors

Helen Moore

I am delighted to be part of the Regent Farm First School community, it is an honour and privilege to be the school's Head Teacher. I began my teaching career 20 years ago and thoroughly enjoy my job. I am totally driven to ensure that each and every child in my care has a wonderful experience at school and makes life long memories. I want Regent Farm to be a place children can thrive, take risks and learn lifelong skills to prepare them for a future in our ever-changing world. Being a school governor allows me to work with a dynamic group of people who are all striving to give our pupils the very best education we can.

Rachael Burn

I am very proud to be able to say that I have worked at Regent Farm First School for over 16 years. During this time I have gained a vast amount of experience having worked as a teaching assistant within all Key Stages and for several years working with SEN pupils on a 1:1 basis. I initially set up Breakfast Club in 2012 which has now successfully evolved into Bumblebees Out of School Club. While I still manage Bumblebees, my school within school changed in 2020 when I was appointed Office Manager.

Regent Farm is an amazing school and I consider myself very fortunate to be part of such a dedicated team. I am looking forward to contributing to the future successes of our children and the wider school community.

Rachel Morgan

I am the Deputy Head and Maths Lead at Regent Farm, where I have worked since qualifying as a teacher. I am passionate about our school community and committed to ensuring every child feels supported, valued, and encouraged to achieve their best. Having spent my entire teaching career at Regent Farm, I have a deep understanding of the school's culture, strengths, and priorities. As Staff Governor, I aim to represent my colleagues positively and contribute to maintaining a high-quality, inclusive learning environment for all.