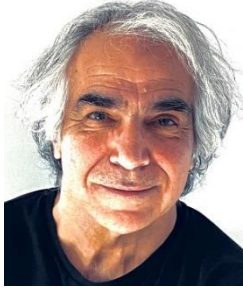










MEET THE VINEYARD SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

Governor	Details
<p>Firas Ali</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>	 <p>Having spent a significant portion of my life in education either as a student with postgraduate qualifications, or as an educator, I worked first in the Information Technology industry for large corporations and then running my own business. I then switched career and spent the next 20 years in property development as an entrepreneur and project manager/interior architect. As a governor since 2019, I am motivated by my love for education as well as serving my community. I also volunteer for youth services in Richmond and other charities. I am very proud of my association with The Vineyard School and I hope that I am playing a part in its success and development. I sit on the Resources Committee and am link governor for Safeguarding.</p>
<p>Fliss Buckles</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>	<p>I have taught English, Drama and Film for over 20 years in schools, colleges and prisons as a subject leader, building accessible, engaging and relevant courses for learners with a wide range of additional needs. I completed my MA in Film, focusing on prisoners and their release back into the community. Over the last 3 years I have become particularly interested in SEND and the challenges faced for this community in education. As the parent of two Vineyard children, I am dedicated to supporting the school as a governor in its strategic development. I am proud to be a governor at The Vineyard and sit on the SD&P committee, which oversees curriculum development within the school.</p> 
<p>Frances Bracegirdle</p> <p>Headteacher</p>	 <p>I am delighted and proud to be the headteacher at The Vineyard, which I have been since November 2021. I am dedicated to fostering an environment where children are inspired to achieve their personal best. Our school community is integral to realising this vision, emphasizing the values of caring, curious, and courageous. With a rich background in education, I bring over 15 years of experience in Richmond schools, including 5 years as deputy head in a local school. Together with our committed school team, we aim to create a dynamic learning atmosphere, ensuring every child thrives academically and emotionally.</p>
<p>Anthony Choi</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>	<p>I am an associate in the tax team of an international law firm, where my work covers tax transactions and disputes in corporate matters. Having also worked as an educational strategy consultant and private tutor for 7 years during my undergraduate and postgraduate studies, I have a keen interest in both the financial and educational wellbeing of the school. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the Vineyard board and wider community through active participation in discussions and a contribution of my skills and knowledge where needed. I aim to assist the school as it continues to grow as an institution that provides an all-round first-class education to its pupils.</p> 

<p>Antony Cook</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p> <p>Chair of Governors</p>	 <p>I am a partner in a large professional services company where I help clients improve their operational and cost performance. I have been a primary school governor for the last 16 years, nearly 10 of them at The Vineyard. During this time I have undertaken several roles, the current one as Chair of Governors. I am also a parent at the school. I want to ensure that The Vineyard offers all children a range of challenges, be they academic, sporting, cultural or community-focused so that all children can grow into confident, responsible citizens ready for the next stage in their education.</p>
<p>Georgina Daborn</p> <p>Staff Governor</p>	<p>I have taught for 12 years in the Richmond borough across the primary year groups. Since joining The Vineyard in 2023, I have been teaching in Y6, leading the UKS2 phase and am now leading writing across the school. I am passionate about high-quality inclusive education for all and am always looking to improve my own teaching/leadership in order to benefit the children at our school. My values fully align with those of The Vineyard and I am keen to support the school on its continued journey. I joined as an associate governor in September 2024 and was elected staff governor in September 2025. It has been really interesting to learn about a different side of school life and to work as a member of the governing body.</p> 
<p>Amanda Horton-Mastin</p> <p>Associate Governor</p>	 <p>I have spent most of my career working in fundraising and marketing in the voluntary sector including a 20+ year stint at Comic Relief and last year was the Head of Foundation at the Wimbledon Foundation. This is the official charity of the All England Lawn Tennis Club which supports charities to make a positive difference to people's lives. I am hoping to bring some of my experience in marketing and communications to support The Vineyard in its many endeavours to maintain excellent relationships with parents and the local community. This is my first time working with a primary school and I am excited at being part of the governing board for this vibrant local school.</p>
<p>Lizzie Lee</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>	<p>I have been a co-opted governor since 2021. I have an interest in education having worked at the Department for Education and its linked agencies for nearly 15 years. I have particular experience in schools policy, curriculum and early years. I also worked in private office with ministers and the education secretary, and more broadly across government. I hope to bring this previous experience and insight into government policy to support The Vineyard's vision and values and development plan. I am also a mum and have two children in the school.</p>
<p>Gerald Lee</p> <p>Parent Governor</p>	<p>As a father of two children in Years 4 and 6, I've seen how The Vineyard helps children grow with confidence, curiosity, and kindness. I'd love the chance to give something back to the school community. I bring a global perspective and over 20 years' experience in HR, sales and marketing. I'm passionate about fairness, inclusion and helping every child thrive—no matter their background. I'd bring that same commitment to the governing board: supporting strong leadership, effective use of resources, and a school culture that reflects and respects all our families—now and in the future.</p> 

<p>Kirsty MacEachen</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p> <p>Vice-Chair</p>		<p>I have over 30 years' experience in business and marketing growth strategy working for many international blue-chip companies. I bring my strategic focus to help with the development of the overall school strategy. Having lived and worked overseas for most of my adult life, I also have a keen interest in the integration of our multi-cultural community. I want to ensure that all children have access to the full curriculum and that every family feels welcome and included in our broader school community.</p>
<p>Grayson O'Reilly</p> <p>Parent Governor</p>	<p>I'm a parent of children in year 2 and 3 at the Vineyard and am grateful they have their primary education here. I have been in education most of my life, teaching and building programs for young people with disabilities and learning disabilities in SEN schools, community schools and supported internship programs in private businesses. The populations I work with include young people who require support in neurotypical classrooms to those requiring life skills support. I'm thankful for the opportunity to bring my SEN lens to the governors to help ensure all students are learning and growing with high expectations.</p>	
<p>Joshua Ross-Wood</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>		<p>All children deserve to lead extraordinary lives. I believe this begins with the foundations we lay together—at home and at school—for lifelong learning, creativity, and ambition. With one child in school—and two more to join—I'm deeply invested in Vineyard's future. I also bring extensive experience: I run a global investment company, advise start-ups, SMEs, and charities, lecture at multiple universities, and mentor young people. I offer a broad professional perspective and a deep commitment to education. I'm honoured to be a governor at The Vineyard and support the school in delivering exceptional opportunities for all pupils.</p>
<p>Philippe Tapernoux</p> <p>Co-opted Governor</p>	<p>I have been a co-opted governor at the Vineyard since 2021 and have had the privilege of helping the school through a period of internal change and external volatility to be the successful school it is today. I sit on the Resources Committee, ensuring the school's strategic development can be sustainably financed. I have seen both my children progress through The Vineyard and into secondary school. My career has been in financial services, initially as an investment banker and more recently working in finance for fintech firms.</p>	
<p>Tom Way</p> <p>Local Authority Governor</p>		<p>I am an experienced strategy and transformation professional with a decade of experience working in social housing and joined The Vineyard in summer 2023. As a Richmond resident with a keen interest in the work of the public sector, I wanted to support a local school to be the best it can be in challenging economic times. I sit on the Resources Committee and also hold an additional accountability as the Governors' lead on Data Protection and Health & Safety.</p>
<p>Liz Annesley</p> <p>Clerk to the Governors</p>	<p>I am Clerk to the Governors and have worked in primary schools for a number of years. One of my roles as Clerk is to act as a 'Postbox' for the governors so if you have any queries that you want to pass to the governors, please email me at clerk@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk</p>	