

## **INTRODUCING HOMERTON'S GOVERNORS**

### **Ken Ong – Chair of Governors & Lead Governor for Safeguarding**

As a Professor at the University of Cambridge and Consultant Paediatrician in Cambridge, I have much experience of chairing committees at local, national and international levels, am kept up to date with latest issues and training in safeguarding children, and have research interests in early childhood growth and nutrition.

My four children had the good fortune to attend Homerton Nursery School, which gave them a great start on their educational journeys to become confident and inquisitive learners.

### **Tandy Harrison – Local Authority Governor & Chair of the Curriculum Committee**

I trained as a primary teacher and taught locally for twelve years, spending four years teaching in a local authority nursery school in Cambridge. I later specialised in supporting children with additional needs, particularly those with severe communication impairment and/or autism. I set up and ran an autism outreach service for a local charity, supporting pre-school children and their families.

I have two children with additional needs and was chair of governors at a local special school for four years.

### **Roger Lilley – Co-opted Governor & Chair of the Resources Committee**

I am a parent of former pupils at Homerton, a former parent governor and have been a local resident for 27 years.

I am a retired local primary school teacher and former staff governor with experience of assessment, performance management and Ofsted. I am treasurer of the local parish church, a member of the Parish Church Council and a local historian.

### **Alex Pearson – Head of Centre**

I started my teaching career working in primary education in London. I then moved to Australia, and then Indonesia, where I worked in both primary and international schools as well as teaching English for the British Council.

I returned to Cambridge when I had my children, who both came to Homerton. I was very lucky to get a job teaching here thirteen years ago and became the Head in September 2018.

### **Rinchen Ato – Parent Governor**

I am a Homerton alumnus myself and when my husband and I decided to start a family, I wanted to raise our children in Cambridge and I hoped very much that they would go to Homerton. Having been a pupil and now as a parent of children who have attended/are attending Homerton, I feel passionately that the nursery continues to thrive.

Most of my career to date has been as a Photographers' Agent. This diverse role involved: marketing photographers, developing their careers, budgeting and producing large scale shoots, implementing new social media platforms, editing existing website content and helping to develop new websites and recruiting staff. These skills have clear relevance to my role as a parent governor as I understand the importance of efficiency, team working, making budgets stretch to achieve the best possible results, and the importance of an organisation's reputation and image as projected both online and in the community.

### **Isa Garcia Crestani – Parent Governor**

I was first involved with Homerton as a parent coming to Messy Play. My son attended Homerton and now my daughter is currently going to Homerton every day, and like her brother, she absolutely loves it. I am an entrepreneur with a BA in Marketing and an EMBA in Fashion Businesses. I have worked for big retailers such as Revlon Cosmetics, Carrefour and the Walt Disney Company, in Latin America, Spain and the UK. Due to Covid I had to close my handmade knitwear business (like many small businesses have had to), but that also has made me re-direct my passion for baking and catering, and has launched a Homemade Baking Business (Lima's Kitchen Homemade). I think that adaptability, being pro-active and always looking to innovate is a big part of who I am as a person, as a parent, and what I can also bring as a parent governor.

### **Eirini Gkouskou – Parent Governor**

I am an Academic of Early Years and Primary Education at the Institute of Education, University College London (IOE-UCL). Before joining the Department of Learning and Leadership at IOE UCL I was a Senior Academic at the University of East London and Manager at formal and non-formal educational organisations. I am an active member of GEM (Group for Education in Museums) and a Deputy Editor of the Journal of Education in Museums (JEM). Also, I am a member of CASTME, an organisation passionate about furthering STEM-related education in its broadest sense for all. I was fortunate for my son to join Homerton and explore play based learning with such amazing learning opportunities.

### **Sameer Garyali – Co-opted Governor**

I work full-time for GlaxoSmithKline, in Ware, as a Senior Engineering Project Manager where I manage multi-million pound budgets for projects, I line manage a team and I am also responsible for the site's recruitment process. I believe that my extensive experience of project and resource management is valuable to my role as a Governor at Homerton.

### **Mick Patel – Co-opted Governor**

I became a co-opted governor when I was a sub-postmaster of a local post office. I was also a teacher for ten years in Cambridgeshire.

Having lived locally for 30+ years, I have many connections with the nursery and its community. My two boys attended the nursery and enjoyed their time at Homerton, and we also have many friends whose children attended Homerton Nursery School.

### **Mitali Peckham – Co-opted Governor**

I trained as a primary teacher and taught for a number of years across the foundation stage. I currently teach a 2.5 day class at Homerton. In this role, I have trained student teachers and act as the Centre's lead for Information and Communications Technology and for pupil assessment.

My own four children attended Homerton Nursery School, so I also have much experience of a parent's perspective at Homerton.

### **Surabhi Singh – Co-opted Governor**

My daughter currently attends Homerton and my son, now 13, also previously attended.

I am a General Practitioner partner and have experience in paediatrics. My job involves caring for children's physical and psychological health, along with supporting parents and families to fulfil their social and educational needs. I have extensive training in child safeguarding.

### **Sue Smith – Staff Governor**

I have worked as a general teaching assistant and 1-1 teaching assistant at Homerton, and am now the Office Manager. I have NVQ level 3 qualification in Early Years Care and Education.