

Karen Doran Parent Governor

My professional training began at Coleraine University in 1982. I graduated in 1986 with BScHons in Nursing Studies inclusive of Registered General Nursing.

The next 5 years I worked in hospital settings in both the public and private sector in London, New Zealand and Australia. I returned to Northern Ireland where I staffed in the Moyle and Craigavon Area Hospital.

In 1991 I completed a Diploma in Community Nursing and specialised in Health Visiting. I have been practicing as a Health Visitor in the Southern Trust area for 20 years. The majority of this time I have been based in Dromore.

I reduced to part-time hours when my eldest son arrived in 2000. I am now privileged to have seven beautiful children.

Why did I want to be a Governor?

I was interested in becoming a Governor for both professional and personal reasons. Having worked in community health with the 0-4 age group for many years I was keen to learn more about community pre-school education. Also hopefully strengthening the neighbourly link between Dromore Clinic and Dromore Nursery School.

I had personal experience of the nursery when my eldest child attended and was so impressed that when the opportunity arose to become involved as a parent governor I jumped at the chance.

Seven years later and six of my children have completed their pre-school education under the watchful eye of Mrs Beattie and her team. I am continuing to learn about the complexities of managing a school to such a high standard. It is a pleasure to be part of the Dromore Nursery Team as a parent, governor and a friend.

One aspect of the school which impresses me.

The dual role of Dromore nursery School. It is not only a wonderful fun learning environment for pupils but provides a friendly, supportive and educational environment for parents. I have personal experience of this with one of my children who has global developmental delay. The emotional and practical support provided by Mrs. Beattie and her team was invaluable.

We all worry about our children and the choices we make on their behalf. This is particularly true of children with additional needs.

I was delighted to watch my son's confidence grow in the care of a positive and supportive team. Their ongoing professional assessment and input made it possible for me to make a well-informed choice about where he would be best placed to continue his education. For that I will be forever grateful.

I know every child will receive the same 4 star treatment which is why I am so terribly proud of the Nursery School and its fabulous staff.