

Governors at Soar Valley College

Governors at Soar Valley College work with the leaders of the school principally to fulfil the role of a governing body this includes:

- Setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Principal to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Soar Valley College currently has 11 governors plus the Principal as senior leader. It is serviced by a trained clerk. Currently, the Associate Principal of the school also attends governors' meetings.

Here is summary of the governors and their roles:

	<u>Vibha Gohil- Chair of Governors - Link Governor for Safeguarding – Co-opted Governor</u> Vibha Gohil has a background in local government services with links to early years provision. Having had children pass through the school, and originally a parent governor, Vibha continues to now bring her expertise as a co-opted governor.
	<u>Vikesh Mistry – Vice Chair/Link Governor for Pupil Premium – Co-opted Governor</u> Vikesh is an awarding winning entrepreneur and educator. He has extensive experience working in both higher and further education, and so brings a wealth of knowledge that will help drive improvements across the school.
	<u>Anne Challenger- Co-opted Governor</u> Few know more about the comings and goings at Soar Valley than Anne. Her association with Soar Valley stretches back a long time as she served as Catering Manager in the kitchens for many years. Now happily retired, Anne is still passionate about all young people reaching their potential and especially champions those with additional needs.
	<u>Helen Exon- Link Governor for Careers – Co-opted Governor</u> Helen has experience in numerous city schools within Leicester as a careers advisor, having previously worked for the Connexions service. She has served two terms as a governor at Soar Valley.
	<u>Nadia Gaffar – Parent Governor</u> Nadia is the parent of two daughters attending Soar Valley College and is passionate about ensuring the best possible provision for all children. She has experience supporting vulnerable mothers through community projects. Nadia hopes to bring a 'mum's perspective' to the governing board.

	<u>Lesley Hall- Co-opted Governor</u> Lesley is the Assistant Head of Department of Mathematics, a Lead Practitioner in the school, and also the lead for the Maths 'Hub' within the city. Having taught at Soar Valley for many years, she has a wealth of knowledge about the school and has a real passion for developing maths teaching.
	<u>Dolatrai Mistry- Co-opted Governor</u> Dolatrai has a background in engineering. His association with Soar Valley is long having had 3 children successfully come through the school. Having first served as a parent governor, Dolatrai continues to contribute as a co-opted governor.
	<u>Umesh Patel – Link Governor for SEND - Co-opted Governor</u> Umesh's extensive background in youth work and community services in Leicester showcases a dedicated effort to address various social issues. Through his roles in the Belgrave area, including managing health and sports-related events, he has actively contributed to the well-being of the community. The co-founding of FC Belgrave in 1987 stands out as a testament to his commitment to providing free training opportunities for under-18s, fostering both sports engagement and community cohesion.
	<u>Jaspreet Sangra – Co-opted Governor</u> Jaspreet is a qualified solicitor specialising in all areas of education law. She advises schools and colleges on a range of legal issues and has represented Soar Valley College as a governor for a number of years.
	<u>Jordan Styles- Link Governor for Anti-Bullying – Staff Governor</u> Jordan is a History teacher at Soar Valley College, with some specific responsibilities for supporting the training of teachers new to the profession, using his experience and expertise to guide and support others as one of the school's Teaching and Learning Coaches.
	<u>Neetin Pabari- Principal - Governor</u> Neetin is the Principal of Soar Valley College, a position he has held since 2025. Before this he held the post of Vice Principal and became Associate Principal in 2020. He has worked in a number of schools in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and joined the Senior Leadership Team at Soar Valley in 2005. Neetin has over 20 years of senior leadership experience at Soar Valley College,
	<u>Smita Stone – Clerk (Non Voting)</u> Smita is the clerk for the governing body of Soar Valley. Having worked in people management within education for some time, Smita brings considerable expertise to the role of clerk and ensures the smooth running of the governing body.