

Danielle Wyatt – Governor

From as early as I can remember, I have always wanted to work with children. Having quickly realised I wasn't destined to be a nurse (I'm not good with blood and all the gunky stuff) I dug into other roles. By chance I stumbled across Speech and Language Therapy visiting a relative in the neonatal unit and was fascinated with the wide breath the job could offer. Fast forward 15 years and I am now a Specialist Children's Speech and Language Therapist working within the NHS.

As a newly qualified therapist I worked within a general clinic post with a general caseload covering a wide range of conditions. Having the opportunity to explore and develop my interests, I quickly realised my passion was working in complex needs covering the breadth of children with PMLD (Profound and Moderate Learning Difficulties), SLD (Severe Learning Difficulties), ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder), AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) and Dysphagia (Swallowing Difficulties). Working within complex needs provides opportunities to be creative, innovative, and new ways of working to meet each child's individual needs. It also gives me the chance to keep my inner child and be playful everyday (you'll often find a tube of bubbles in my bag everywhere I go – just in case!)

I was keen to join governance to use my skills and experience within SEND in a different role and to ensure that the children of Red Gates are receiving the best we can possibly provide for them. I was approached by a few different schools but when Red Gates got in touch I knew it was the school for me as it ticked all my boxes and the areas I am passionate about. Having joined as a Governor of Red Gates in September 2021, I have been thrilled to see the wonderful teaching and support provided at Red Gates to our pupils and families. I have recently had the opportunity to visit school and some of the classes and it has been extremely rewarding to meet staff and students alike and to see the progress our pupils are making within the nurturing and holistic environment Red Gates provides.

I look forward to meeting staff, parents and pupils during my time here at Red Gates.

