Governor Pen Portraits October 2023

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Diocesan Governors** |  |  |
| **Annette Scott**  I became Chair of Governors in January 2021, having been co-opted to the Board the year before. My association with the school began in 2012 when I started to volunteer, primarily supporting literacy initiatives. I really enjoyed helping out and welcomed the opportunity to become more involved.    I have lived in Kettleshulme with my husband, Kevin since 2011, moving here from the South East. I have a degree in Business Law and my working career was based in London managing pension schemes for a number of FTSE 100 companies. My interests are varied but top of the list has to be walking with Harvey, our dog (a Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer). I love going to the cinema, theatre and reading. My reading isn’t limited to a good book, menus and wine lists feature too, especially at the weekends. " | **Gill Thompson**  I am now in my fifth year as a Governor, helping out at the School for one morning each week. I have four children and two grandchildren.  I have worked in a bank and enjoyed a career in finance for a number of years, and I am now the Finance Director for a business in Whaley Bridge. I have also worked at Good News Nursery in Whaley Bridge obtaining an NVQ qualification whist working there. I am also a volunteer at Charis House in Buxton helping out in the Nursery when required.  I foster and have worked with Social Services for quite a while and am the Safeguarding Governor at the School. | **Ruth Lockett**  I was delighted to be asked to become a Governor by the Parish Council and begin my term in the role with a mixture of excitement and determination to do my best to support the school, particularly in the areas of teaching and learning. Until August 2021 I was Head of Politics and Psychology at St. Bede's College in Manchester and Assistant Head of Sixth Form with responsibility for Higher Education applications and Careers. Since retirement I have trained as a volunteer caseworker with a military veterans charity and have become more involved with St. James in Taxal. My husband and I moved to the High Peak six years ago and consider ourselves very privileged to live amidst such lovely countryside. I have a dog and a horse who are significant. |
| **Christopher Johnson**  After graduating in French & German, I trained as a Comprehensive School teacher, but only taught for 2 years. I then worked for 30 years in banking & investment. However, I have always remained interested in education, and welcome this opportunity to help in this sector in my community. I have lived for more than 25 years in 7 countries other than the UK, but spent most of the rest of my life in East Anglia, before moving with my wife to Taxal in May 2021, in order to be closer to our 2 daughters.  My voluntary activities have included serving on the committees of the former pupils’ association of my school, of the association welcoming visiting scholars and their families to Cambridge University, of a Cambridge rowing club and of the St James’s Way pilgrimage association in the area of France where I once lived. Also in France, I was a town councillor and mentored small businesses for the local enterprise agency.I have played a fair number of sports at a modest level, but am now restricted to hiking and rowing. | **Beryl Axcell**  I came onto the governing body for 6 months about  18 years ago. I am chair of the Pupil Welfare Committee and also do assemblies from time to time. I taught RE at Chapel en le Frith High school for a time and also helped to run the Good News Family Care Nursery on old Road, Whaley Bridge. I am currently a Reader in the Parish of St James and Holy Trinity. I enjoy many things, in particular time with our nine grandchildren – just as well! |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parent Governors** |  | **Staff Governor** |
| **Geoff Evatt**  I am extremely proud to be a Parent Governor at Kettleshulme St. James. As a parent of two pupils (Iris and Edith), and being a third generation educator myself, I know just how important it is for a school to have a fully involved Board of Governors. I will always strive to represent a balanced voice for all parents at the school. But above all else, I will continually help to ensure the school excels both educationally and pastorally for years to come. | **Beverley Turner**  I chose to apply to be a parent governor back in December 2020 when the vacancy arose. I wanted to get involved as my daughter had just started in reception at the school. I also love the community feel of the school and wanted to be more involved. I hope to represent parents at the school and ensure all our voices are heard including those with unconventional views such as those who previously homeschooled or those who Flexischool. I am a civil servant with experience volunteering with charities. I’m interested in SEN, Cared for children, Forest School and different ways of learning and Safeguarding. | **Rachel Blood**  I have lived in Kettleshulme for around 25 years now and been part of the school family for 18 of those, both as a parent, PTA Chair and founder of Kettletots as well as a member of staff. I have seen the school grow from strength to strength and am extremely proud to be part of both the school and the wider community of Kettleshulme. I am also a Parish councillor here in the village so hope that this role will work hand in hand with being a Governor. Community is very important to me as is the wonderful team we have here at Kettleshulme St James. |
|  | **Ex - Officio** |  |
| . | **Alicia Bellshaw – Headteacher – Ex-Officio** | **Paddy Fox**  I took early retirement just over a year ago, having worked in the NHS at Stepping Hill Hospital for most of my working life as a manager in Information and IT. I have 2 grown up children and a young grandson who I regularly look after. My main hobby is hill walking and I’ve also been very involved at church in helping to provide activities for children and teenagers for many years. I’m a Christian and regularly worship at St James, Taxal and at Holy Trinity. I suddenly found I had more free time than I’ve ever had so when I was approached by our vicar to see if I would be willing to act as a governor for the school I was more than happy to do so. I have been an ex officio foundation governor since November 2020 and now come into school one afternoon a week to listen to the children of Class 1 read. I thoroughly enjoy doing this and have been made so welcome by staff and children that I am delighted to be getting to know our lovely school better. |
| **LA Governor** |
| **Position Vacant** |