

## **Governor profiles**

### **Lin Stephenson**

I have thirty eight years' experience in teaching in the primary sector, including thirteen years as Head Teacher of Hatfield Broad Oak Church of England School. I started my career as a Reception teacher in Leicestershire before spending twenty five years in Hampshire where I was a Deputy Head of a large primary school with over four hundred pupils. Since retiring ten years ago I have taken on a number of volunteer roles including being an education volunteer at Audley End House. I also have a keen interest in textile art and continue to work on various projects when time allows.

### **John Saxon**

I am married to Dawn and we have four grown up children. We have recently moved to the village for me to take up the post of Assistant Curate at St Mary's, Saffron Walden, with a focus of ministry in Debden and Wimbish parishes. Previously I was a teacher in primary education moving to special needs education for the last eight years and managing the college department in a school for pupils with severe learning difficulties. I have been a governor in different schools for most of my teaching career and am very happy to continue working as a governor for Debden Academy to help provide the best education and experience possible for the children in our care. I am pleased to be able to support the Christian ethos of the school and to strengthen the links between the church and the school.

### **Liam Tobin**

With my background in the Military I feel I can offer Debden Academy and also the Great Oak Multi Academy Trust a hardworking, valued member of the community who can represent Military children at Debden Academy. I am currently in a management role which has its challenges, working in an ever changing landscape with limited resources and manpower. Within this role I have organised leadership and development packages for soldiers across the regiment, deployed to Saudi Arabia last year to teach Counter IED and recently returned from Iraq this month upon promotion to Warrant Officer Class 2. This promotion will keep me in the local area for at least two years possibly six. I have also been involved in charity work within Wimbish Station, a personal venture raising over £1000 for GOSH, assisting in the running of our 75th Bomb Disposal Anniversary Luncheon at the Guildhall in London and also organising the entertainment and behind the scenes work of the Royal Engineer's 300th anniversary charity boxing event at Stamford Bridge, Chelsea.

### **Sarah Belchambers**

I have two boys at the school and I hope my experience at work will help me in my role as a governor. I have worked in event and project management for 16 years for the local authority. Currently as the Cultural Events Manager I organise with my team family festivals, community projects and hospitality events from inception to delivery including marketing and promoting these events. I have been fortunate enough to work on Olympic projects and events including the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relays and a Queens visit in 2015 which required minute by minute planning. Through my work and role in the Essex Young Farmers Federation I have been responsible for fundraising using various methods including sponsorship, grants, pledge programmes and events. I am proud to be on the governing board which helps steer, support and develop our school.

### **Catherine Gibson**

I have taught in the Primary sector for the past thirty years teaching all ages. Most recently I have been Head of Early Years, with a keen interest on implementing reading strategies for children. I worked part time at the Debden Pre-School before it closed down in the Summer. I now help run the First Debden Brownies which has a core group of girls from Debden School. I have lived in Debden for twenty years where our three children have grown up and I am now semi-retired. I have a huge interest in gardening and grow the majority of our own

vegetables. I am a keen traveller, having volunteered twice in Kolkata in Mother Theresa's Homes and I am learning Nepalese before spending time in Kalimpong in West Bengal teaching English in a small school in the Himalayas.

**Michael O Adeleke**

I joined the British Army in 2013 as a Queen's Guard in the Household Division, carried out numerous State ceremonial duties as well as deployed on various exercises overseas. Transferred into the Adjutant General Corp in 2016 as a Combat Human Resources Administrator and currently based in 33 Engr EOD & S. Previously worked with BT limited as an Inventory Control and Procurement Officer, maintaining accuracy in inventory, reconciling various books of account and performing financial functions in relations to collection, accuracy, recording, analysis and presentation of company's financial operations. My Educational achievements includes a Bsc (Hons) in Accounting, Msc (Hons) in Management and Finance and a PGd in Business Management from Birmingham City University. As an extremely motivated individual, having spent a significant part of my life in a classroom and my knowledge in Management and Finance, I am confident with our joint efforts we can develop, support and steer our school in the right direction so as to give a very conducive learning environment and quality education to our children and at large make our community a better place.

**Isobel Tunnecliff**

I have a business specialising in antique and vintage jewellery, mainly selling online. I set up the company when we first moved to the area 14 years ago and it has flourished as time as gone on. I have lived in Newport with my family since that time with an interlude living in America for 3 years. I have three boys with my husband, Chris. Our eldest son started at Debden in 2012, moved to America in year 2 and came back to Debden at the end of year 5 in 2018. He has now moved onto JFAN. I will have two children in the school from September 2021, the eldest will be in Year 6 in Kingfishers and the younger will be starting in Ducklings. I am looking forward to being part of the team of Governors and helping to support the school and staff. Other than work and school, I love being outdoors and will give any activity a go.