

## Whitleigh Primary and Sir John Hunt CSC Federated Governing Board

### Governor Profiles



#### **JOHN BALE: LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR AND CHAIR**

I have worked in Children's Services at Plymouth City Council for the last 7 years. I mainly deal with Post-16 education and training, including work on school and college performance data. Previously, I have held roles in a number of government agencies, mainly linked to youth and adult training.

My main role is supporting schools, colleges and training providers maintain and develop an offer that helps young people gain qualifications that will support them through their life and successfully move from school into further / higher education or apprenticeships / work. This includes working with organisations providing impartial advice and guidance (e.g. Careers South West) to ensure young people understand the options available to them from 16, and the range of providers and courses which will support their education and skills development.

I have a particular interest in technical / vocational options for students and developing education / business links to provide students experiences of the world of work. This includes supporting schools work with training providers in the city in delivery of vocational studies at sixth form and identifying apprenticeship routes from 18.

I hope my skills can help improve outcomes for pupils and students within the WPSJH Federation. I look forward to working with staff, governors and other professionals in my role on the governing body.



#### **DAVID BAYLIS OBE: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR**

David has recently retired having spent 30 years in the Army and 15 years in the education profession as a Bursar/Business Manager of 3 schools in the Independent sector. He is married and he and his wife have 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

David's military career started at Sandhurst and included tours of duty across the world including Northern Ireland, Falklands, Germany, Norway, India, Kuwait, Bosnia and Italy. Along the way he also graduated from Leeds University (BA Hons), Madras University (MA) and Cranfield Business school (MSc). He was awarded the OBE in 1999. He left the Army to take up a second career in education where he has successfully managed all the non-academic business involved in the administration of schools encompassing disciplines such as HR, Legal, Catering, H&S, Utilities, Maintenance, Marketing, Contracts, Recruiting and Security.

His retirement has given him the opportunity to establish a personal portfolio of voluntary and charitable work. It also allows him to continue being of value in an area he feels very passionate about – education. Being appointed as a Governor of these 2 schools is, he feels, a perfect opportunity to allow him to use the expertise gained in his life experiences, especially in the education world which is demanding and constantly changing.



**LYNDSAY CHELL: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR AND VICE CHAIR**

I worked at Sir John Hunt Community Sports College as a Professional Tutor from 2012-2014. Previously I worked in several Plymouth schools as a Science teacher before taking on Head of Science at Kingsbridge Community College. My career has spanned 40 years much spent teaching in schools and field centres in London, Shrewsbury and finally Slapton.

I left Sir John Hunt to take a grandparent gap year in the Wirral where I developed links with an Under 5's urban farm in Birkenhead. However, I missed the South West and returned last year. I am passionate about education and still do some teacher training for Exeter University.

Now that I have more time I want to take on a different role as a Governor so that I can still make a difference and enable every child to achieve their best.



**LAURA HILLARY: PARENT GOVERNOR (WHITLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL)**

I have been a civil servant for 20 years working within the Department for Work and Pensions. My current role involves working with families, individuals and highly vulnerable people to provide support and advice, ensuring they are in the best possible position to make effective life changes and decisions. I liaise with various partners and agencies to establish information on behalf of our customers and work alongside agencies. I am used to dealing with different culture and religions. I am confident in dealing with mental health issues and have a broad understanding of the challenges faced by parents who have children with such issues. My job is demanding, challenging yet very rewarding.

I am always keen to make a difference and I believe that the role as a governor will allow me to draw on my experiences to support a happy and healthy school environment.



**SOPHIE COCKS: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR**

I have over 11 years' experience of working in many roles as a HR Professional, as a HR Advisor, Strategic HR Business Partner and Change Advisor.

I have been lucky enough to always have a role which encompasses an organisations 'people' and to champion and support the development and progression of people, thus enabling organisations (and the people who make up those organisations), to thrive.

My experience has allowed me to gain insight and experience of many sectors, such as local government, manufacturing and healthcare. The educational sector is one which I have always wanted to know more about and have an impact upon, hence my aspiration to volunteer as a Governor. I always love a challenge and to keep myself busy, my education has had a lasting impact upon me in that experience and throwing yourself into something new (no matter how small) is what helps you grow and opens your eyes and mind to what is achievable.

I look forward to the journey ahead and how I can help ensure we have equality and inclusion for all pupils within the WPSJH Federation.



**TOM DUNHAM: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR**

I am one of the leaders/ministers of the Salvation Army in Whitleigh along with my wife Rachel. We have a son who was born in March 2020.

I moved to Plymouth in 2019 to take up my current role, following 2 years in London as part of the recruitment team for Salvation Army ministers. Prior to this I was the leader of the Salvation Army in Bo'ness in East Scotland for 3 years. My working career before this was in data analysis with Network Rail and a market research company.

My current role in the Salvation Army includes the day-to-day running of the work of the Salvation Army in Whitleigh, and as a Christian minister I am responsible for leading the local congregation in worship and pastoral care. The Salvation Army is known for its hands on approach to community work. In Whitleigh this includes a wide range of services to the local community to all ages as the needs arise.

I have a desire to see those in our community flourish. Being part of the governing body is another way in which I want to serve the local community.

**BEN MANNING: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR**

With an unwavering commitment and passion for improving the outcomes for all learners, I have taught and led in the education sector for over 15 years. I am Deputy Principal (Curriculum and Quality) at a local Further Education College and enthusiastic about continually enhancing learning experiences through innovative and responsive curriculum opportunities alongside aspirational teaching and learning strategies.

Throughout my professional career, both in employment and through my voluntary roles, I work with the strong belief that all students deserve the best learning experience to enable them to realise their full potential as valued members of society. I live in Plymouth with my wife and two young children and it's an absolute pleasure to be able to contribute to the school's ambitions and play a part in its future success.

**KATHERINE ELLIOTT: STAFF GOVERNOR**

My name is Katherine Elliot, I work at Whitleigh Primary as a KS1 teacher. I have always lived and worked in Plymouth. I studied English Literature and Education Studies for 3 years at the University College of St Mark and St John and then worked as a teaching assistant for 1 year before deciding to do my PGCE in primary teaching. This is now my 5<sup>th</sup> year of teaching and in order to be fully engaged in my role, I felt it would be beneficial to be a part of the governing body where I can find out more about the way in which the school is run.

**JULIE BEVAN: PRINCIPAL, SIR JOHN HUNT CSC**

**GAVIN SUMMERFIELD: HEADTEACHER, WHITLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**