



Learning For Life Partnership Governance Structure & Pen portraits of Trustees

Members:

1. Alison Greatbanks
2. Andy Hodgkinson - Chair
3. Anita Millar (to be formally appointed at next meeting)
4. Mike Finney
5. Simon Kidwell

Trustees

1. Alison Greatbanks (Member & Trustee)
2. David Marren
3. John Clough – Interim Chair
4. Matt Snelson
5. Mike Finney
6. Rachael Evans (resigned 29/4/2018)
7. Rangeeta Bhamra
8. Sharon Dempsey
9. Simon Morris

Pen portraits

JOHN CLOUGH

John, who is the Chair of the Trust, is a retired chartered accountant with many years' experience in the provision of audit, accountancy and business advisory services to a wide range of clients. Up to his retirement John was a partner in a 'top ten' firm of chartered accountants, based in Stoke-on-Trent. John has also been involved throughout his career on a voluntary basis with a number of public and charitable bodies. He was a director of the UK national management company of his firm, and was also the treasurer and past president of the North Staffs Society of Chartered Accountants.

He is a Lay member and Vice Chair of the Governing body of an NHS Clinical Commissioning Group and a trustee of a support charity based in Crewe.

In his NHS role he is also Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee and has considerable experience in governance both within this position and in previous roles in the public sector.

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



Born and educated in Blackpool, John moved to West Yorkshire after qualifying and became a partner in a Leeds based firm which then merged with a national practice. He also spent some time in the North East before moving to Cheshire in 1993.

DAVID MARREN

My name is David Marren. In May 2011 and 2015, I was elected as a Cheshire East Councillor representing Haslington ward and as a Nantwich Town Councillor representing Nantwich South. I am also co-opted to Crewe Green Parish Council. Since 1988 I have been a Magistrate on the South Cheshire Bench.

I have worked in local government for more than 45 years. For 9 years, up to 2009, I was an Executive Director of Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council where I was one of the Council's Strategic Management Team of 3. I also had responsibility for more than half the Council's staff delivering front-line services which included refuse collection and recycling; town centre management; the cemeteries and crematorium; street scene services; the theatre; markets; the Civic Hall; swimming pools; leisure centres; grounds maintenance, parking and community wardens.

Between 1st June 2009 and 3rd April 2011 I was a Group Manager at East Riding of Yorkshire Council responsible for Environmental Services delivering similar functions.

In 2010, I became a member of the National Executive of the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities, which is a body that advises Government on matters related to bereavement. I am still a member of the National Executive.

As a Cheshire East Councillor, my main interest has been in governance.

From 6th May 2011 (when I was first elected) until 20th October 2016, I was the Vice Chair of the Constitution Committee. From 6th May 2011 until 17th May 2017 I was a member of the Audit and Governance Committee and I was its Vice Chair in 2016/17. Since 1st November 2013, on inception, I became Chair of the Board of Orbitas Bereavement Services Ltd, a wholly owned company of Cheshire East Council.

QUALIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

MMS (dip) (Corporate Member of the Institute of Management Services)

MCIPD (Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development)

In October 2016, I became a Director of the Learning for Life Partnership.

I believe my strengths and what I most bring to the school relate to getting the best out of resources and in particular people. That ability is evidenced by my work record, originally as a challenger of the status quo as a Work Study practitioner; through successfully managing Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council's front line services that were regularly subjected to

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



competitive bidding and I never lost a tender nor ever incurred a trading loss; further evidenced by my qualifications focusing on productivity, efficiency and people management.

Whilst only employed at East Riding for nearly two years, but responsible for a wide range of front line services, my refuse and recycling operation was recognised as the best in the country in both years.

Now as a Councillor I have concentrated on governance and well able to challenge systems that lack good governance and to be able to design it in, including proper understanding of risk assessment and management.

Having chaired Orbitas since 2013, I have significant experience of Board meetings where I demonstrate challenge and leadership to ensure the Company is successful. All these skills and competencies are transferable to help ensure that the Learning for Life Partnership is a successful educational venture.

ANDY HODGKINSON

Andy has worked in the education sector for nearly 20 years. During this time he has taught in Primary, Secondary and Higher Education. He was Executive Head at the Federation of Pott Shrigley and Bollington St John's Primary Schools for 5 years where he led the schools through good and outstanding Ofsted inspections.

He is a strategic partner to the National College Leadership Curriculum Licensee - Outstanding Leaders Partnership and until recently was a strategic partner to the North West 2 Maths hub leading on mastery and Singapore Textbook enquiry. He supports a number of teaching schools across the North West and is passionate about pedagogy, collaboration and partnerships, new models for school leadership, curriculum design and staff development. He is an associate of the Institute of Education and currently chairs the East Cheshire Association of Primary Headteachers.

SHARON DEMPSEY

Sharon has over 40 years' experience in leading IT and business transformations and has managed her own consultancy company for nearly 30 years. Sharon is expert on IT, Finance and Data, and is currently consulting on GDPR and Data strategies to a national client. Currently semi-retired, she now has time to share her skills with the Learning for Life Partnership and also CMAT in Congleton. After graduation with a BSc (hons) in Applied Mathematics and Computer Studies, Sharon taught in inner London for 3 years before moving to a role in IT in industry. Throughout Sharon's career, she has been responsible for the training and mentorship of many colleagues and seeing them progress and succeed is something she takes great pride in. Sharon is an Ambassador for Limelight in Old Trafford having taken a key role on the Management Committee to launch the £20m flagship project.

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



Sharon is a STEM Ambassador and is hoping to put the fun into Maths and IT by supporting STEM activities across the region.

MIKE FINNEY

Mike has been employed as Director of Admissions, Advice and Marketing at Cheshire College South and West College since January 1983, initially in a teaching capacity, moving into various management roles.

As part of his role he undertakes training and regular updates related to current issues, such as 'Prevent' / Data protection and Safeguarding, along with management responsibilities including Event Management, Human resources/ Finance / Organisational Development and Performance Management.

In addition to cross college responsibilities, he has lead a team of staff, working with institutions across the education sectors. He is also responsible for the college student transport system which involves transporting over 1,000 students from across Cheshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire to the college's three campuses. He has considerable budget responsibility across all areas.

Mike's passion is to ensure the best possible educational experience for the young people the College serves and has committed his working life to ensuring this passion impacts positively. Mike is also a Governor at Middlewich High School with approximately 25 year's service. Mike is currently also Chair of Learning, Progress and Achievement committee.

Mike has been a Board member of the LFLP Trust since its inception.

ALISON GREATBANKS

Solicitor and partner in the firm of Hall Smith Whittingham Solicitors Crewe. Qualified since February 2002 and has experience in dealing with commercial contracts, commercial litigation, domestic conveyancing prior to specialising in private client work which, covers dealing with: Wills, Probates, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Court of Protection Application, Challenging Care fees, Inheritance Tax Planning and General Elderly client issues.

Alison has been a member of the Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE) since 2007 and has achieved the Older Client Care in Practice Accreditation and has vast experience in dealing with vulnerable clients. She is also a committee member of the Staffordshire and Cheshire Branch of SFE.

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



As part of her management role within the firm she is responsible for dealing with IT issues including cyber security issues, involvement in the training of trainee solicitors and dealing with the other partners dealing with regulatory issues affecting the operation of the firm.

Alison has, since 2013, been involved in The End of Life Partnership and is Vice Chair of the Financial Housing Keeping Group. The group as part of the Cheshire Living Well Dying Well public health initiative are involved in community events and as an ambassador of the scheme run workshops in for the community. The workshops give help and advice in regard to wills, LPA's and Care Issues.

RANGEETA BHAMRA

Rangeeta Bhamra has over 15 years experience working within the Public sector. Rangeeta is the owner and founder of Nursing Zone a leading recruitment agency that supplies Nursing staff to the NHS and Private Sector across nationally. Rangeeta is also an experienced consultant who offers her expertise in Recruitment, Human Resources, Auditing, Hospital management and Transformation Management.

Prior to running her own company, Rangeeta worked for large Corporate companies in London providing recruitment services within Healthcare, Social Care and Education. Rangeeta's achievements here involved winning multimillion pound tenders, managing acquisitions, achieving highest ratings with CQC/Ofsted, TV appearances and featured in a variety of news publications.

Rangeeta is currently working on a new project which involves mentoring and training others who wish to set up their own business.

Rangeeta has recently joined the LFLP board and is looking forward to using her expertise to support Board development.

SIMON MORRIS

A graduate of Durham University, Simon Morris spent 27 years in the Administrative Branch of the Royal Air Force (RAF) rising to the rank of Group Captain. In a varied career he covered finance, HR, catering, security and estate management. One of his final appointments was to manage an estate development programme with an annual budget of £128m. He also attended the RAF Advanced Staff Course, a 9 month residential course to prepare selected officers for the highest leadership appointments. Simon left the RAF in August 1997 to join Keele University as Secretary and Registrar. Reporting directly to the Vice-Chancellor as one of her two deputies he had responsibility for the full range of administrative functions including: finance, HR, governance, IT, library services, student welfare, a commercial conferencing and catering business, management of some 2300 student bedrooms and the development of a commercial science park. The annual turnover

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



of the university was around £110m. Highlights of the 14 years at Keele were the development of the Medical School, a new build costing some £11m, the development of 4 large Science Park buildings and the opening up of a further 72 acres for development and, leading two major finance developments which securitised the student accommodation rental income and raised over £100m net for the University to pay off debt and invest in accommodation refurbishment and academic activity.

Simon left Keele in December 2011 to develop a portfolio career. However, after a short period of consultancy with Ombudsman Services, who deliver impartial dispute resolution for customers of energy, communications and property companies, he joined the company first as Director of Business Development and then was promoted to Deputy Chief Executive once again covering all aspects of administration. During his time with the company staff numbers grew from 150 to 660 and turnover grew from some £8m to £35m. Simon introduced a full internal audit function to the company and made major changes to the governance and the values of the company. He retired from full-time work in December 2017.

During his time at Keele, Simon was a Board member of the North Staffordshire Regeneration Company and chaired its Audit Committee; he was also a Board member of the Stoke and Staffordshire LEP. He has been the vice-Chair of the Board of Stafford College and has been a governor of Madeley College. He was a lay member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Magistrates in Staffordshire and was frequently on appointing committees for magistrates. In recognition of his work in Staffordshire, Simon was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the county in 2009. Currently, Simon is the non-executive director for UNIAC, a company based in Manchester that specialises in internal audit for universities, and is chair of the Audit Committee for the Marshall Commission, which runs student scholarship schemes on behalf of the Foreign Office for American students to study for Masters and PHDs in the UK. Prior to joining the Learning for Life MAT, Simon was a governor of Leighton Academy.

With a working life spanning some 48 years, Simon has built up expertise in financial management, HR (particularly in dealing with difficult cases involving senior staff, governance, audit and working as a non-executive director). He also has extensive experience of estate development and maintenance and has been responsible over his career for building, amongst other things, a development of 88 houses, two nursery schools, all types of RAF single accommodation and student accommodation, a medical school, specialist science buildings and a maintenance facility for VC10 aircraft.

Simon has been married to Helen for over 42 years and they have 3 adult sons and four grandchildren. They are both keen golfers and regularly visit the USA where their eldest son and his family live”

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



Simon has recently been appointed to the Board and is looking forward to contributing to its development.

MATTHEW SNELSON

Matthew Snelson is a Director of the Learning for Life Partnership. He is also a Vice Principal of the County High School, Leftwich, an Outstanding (March 2016) Secondary school in Northwich Cheshire. As Vice Principal, Matthew is the strategic lead for Student Achievement and Curriculum. The County High School, Leftwich consistently achieves results which place the school as the top performing school in Cheshire (using the Progress 8 measure). Matthew has also been leading on the Pupil Premium for the past 5 years; The County High School, Leftwich were awarded a Pupil Premium Award in June 2017 as Regional Secondary Champions, evidencing the impact on the students for whom the Pupil Premium provides support. He also has considerable budget responsibility across all areas of responsibility, including whole school ICT. Matthew was previously elected as a Parent Governor at Wheelock Primary School and became Vice-Chair and Acting Chair during his term. Matthew has a BSc in Economics and Politics, a Secondary PGCE and an MSc in Educational Leadership and Management.

ANITA MILLER

After obtaining a BSc (Hons) Anita started working life as a computer programmer before moving across to the user side and worked in the commercial sector for over 20 years. She was ultimately responsible for Customer Services, Telesales and Credit Control in a large FMCG company. After taking redundancy she took up voluntary work for the RSPCA, Guide Dogs and joined the board at a local housing association spending the maximum 9 years there, where she gained strong governance skills.

Building on these skills she has joined the board at a local charity - End of Life Partnership. She did obtain some exposure to the education sector on a board at a local primary school.

She enjoys relaxing with her retired guide dog, reading, crocheting and taking holidays and mini-breaks with family and friends.

KEVIN JONES

Indentured building trainee with Wimpey Construction progressed to become regional manager at a number of national construction companies. I worked on schools for the first time in 2001 with Wirral PFI and then Liverpool PFI initially as Construction Project Director and then SPV Project Director. Following this introduction to education I worked on schools exclusively on bids working for contractors including Birmingham BSF for Lend Lease with my scope being the new build Academies until the demise of BSF. Following Mr Gove's decision I resigned and started a consultancy working for Schools/Academies during the construction on Birmingham BSF and then on one

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



Academy managing their Facilities Management, lifecycle planning and development schemes.

In addition, I have worked for 3 Free Schools, 2 completely through to their opening of the schools dealing with EFA directly (both are PRUs). I also worked for the EFA on Yorkshire School PFI through the bidding until construction commenced.

I believe I now understand schools while I appreciate that each has its individuality and should always be respected as each is bespoke. My attitude is to try and look at how efficiency in the buildings can add to the staff and student education (I was told when I commenced on schools to always remember that the students only get one chance).

My experience over the last 20 years would assist a Trust in their developments plus assisting to ensure statutory compliance and that Facilities Management is a “silent partner” in the delivering of education.



Name: Simon Kidwell

Position: Headteacher

School: Hartford Manor Primary and Nursery School.

Address: Stones Manor Lane,
Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire,
CW81NU

As an experienced and influential educational leader, I successfully interpret and articulate strategy to bring about positive change for stakeholders in the school community, the Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority, and the National Association of Headteachers (NAHT). I have 14 years' experience as a Headteacher and have led three successful schools. I led the lowest performing school in Cheshire out of Special Measures and have secured rapid improvement at my current school. I have worked as a Cheshire West and Chester School improvement adviser for six years and have supported a number of schools on their journey to securing a “good” OFSTED outcome.

I build strong and effective networks to ensure I am well informed, challenged and supported. I work for a variety of stakeholders to meet their strategic objectives and accountability measures. I

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.



served as the Chair of the Curriculum and Standards Committee at Hartford CofE High School and have over 20 years' experience as a school Governor.

I am highly adaptable and can navigate the shifting sands of educational change, keeping focused on improving outcomes for children whilst fostering high levels of staff engagement and motivation.

Membership of any other relevant organisations:

- Chartered College of Teaching Founder Member
- Executive of Cheshire West Association of Primary Headteachers
- Executive member of the Northwich Education Partnership
- Cheshire and Chester School Improvement Advisor
- NAHT North West Regional National Executive member
- Member of the NAHT Early Years Sector Council
- Member of the NAHT Assessment and Accountability Group

The Learning for Life Partnership is a multi-academy-trust dedicated to the provision of education and support services to children between the ages of two and eleven with a special emphasis on the needs of the individual child whilst at the same time exploiting all the opportunities provided by the National Curriculum.