

## **Lauren Harkness – Chair of Governors**

I started my teaching career in 1967 and have experience in Early Years, Primary, Pre Nursery Training at Merton College and training Play Group Leaders. I ended my career in 2004 as a Deputy Head Teacher.

I am married with two adult sons and 3 grandchildren.

I was the Staff Governor in my last teaching post and I really enjoyed it, being part of the governance of the school. When I retired the Clerk suggested that I put my name forward to become a governor locally and that is how I came to Great Dalby.

My proudest moments concern the outstanding Ofsted Rating. I was, and still am, so proud of this achievement and the efforts of staff, children and governors to make this happen. It is great to be part of such a wonderful school.

After spending the whole of my working life in education I hope that I am able to use these skills in supporting the school. In addition, I hope that I can use my “listening” skills to support staff and governors.

## **Adrienne Holland – Vice Chair and Safeguarding Governor**

I have lived in Melton most, but not all of my life. My entire career was in Education and I am still passionate about it. I have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

I became a Governor to help a primary school provide high quality education as this is an incredibly essential task for the children and the future.

My proudest moments are watching the children's faces when they are enjoying their activities.

This skills I bring to the school as Governor are my school leadership experience and working with a Governing body since 1985.

## **Robert Howard Child – Chair of Finance and Audit Committee**

I was employed by the Local Authority in the finance/accounting section for 50 years, this included investments, borrowing, estimates and budget control. I have lived in Great Dalby since 1973 and I am currently chairman of the Cricket Club. I am also an ambassador for Rainbows Hospice.

Both my children attended Great Dalby School and with my background in financial and voluntary work, I hope my time will make a difference.

My proudest and most enjoyable moments were when I visited the school in my role as governor. I was involved in 2 visits and both had positive results and the

feedback good. It was clear that the children were keen to improve their learning, very attentive and it gave me pleasure to witness this.

The skills I bring to this role is the wide knowledge of finance and controls that I gained working for the Local Authority.

### **Anne Middleton – Community Governor/Finance and Audit Committee**

Originally from Hampshire, I moved to Leicestershire in 1990 to work at the Alliance and Leicester when they set up a subsidiary company dealing in unsecured lending. I left the Alliance and Leicester in 2005 and started work at Wreake Valley Academy in the Finance Department.

I retired in 2015 but I wanted to remain active and to be able to meet new people. Being a governor at my local school seemed an ideal opportunity to put my skills to use.

The most enjoyable part of being a governor at Great Dalby School is getting to meet the children and to see their enthusiasm to learn. The joy on their faces in the classroom and how they want to be involved in the tasks they are set.

The skills I bring to this role are my 25 years working in the banking industry, where I was involved in budget controls and risk management. I was also 10 years in an education environment.

### **Sarah Richardson – Parent Governor/Health and Safety Committee**

My husband Marcus and I have lived in Great Dalby for almost 18 years now. Although neither of us are originally from this area, it has very much become our home and provided the perfect environment to bring up our two girls Victoria (Y7) just moved on to secondary school and Hannah (Y5) currently a pupil at Great Dalby.

I was born and raised in Yorkshire but, after studying Chemistry at Aston University, I began working for British Gas and enjoyed a 25 year career as a safety consultant in the oil and gas industry. That came to an end last summer and I am currently taking some time out to decide on a new direction.

I am proud to admit that I just turned 50. I am constantly battling to get fit and love being out and about in the country side and spending time with my family.

Victoria started in the reception class at Great Dalby in 2010 and I immediately fell in love with the school and wanted to become involved. After a stint as secretary of the PTA, I became a Parent Governor in 2012 just as Hannah also moved up to the school. I believe that Great Dalby is a fabulous school and I am very proud to

be associated with it. I am very much committed to the continued development and success of the school for current pupils and all those to come.

I have been a part of many significant events since I became a governor; converting to Academy status obtaining an Outstanding rating from Ofsted, appointing a wonderful new head teacher, joining a Multi Academy Trust, It has been a challenging but exciting and rewarding journey. I very much enjoy being part of the team and above all ensuring that the best interests of the children are served.

The skills I developed in my job as Safety Consultant have helped me on the Safety Committee. I have taken over the Chairperson role and am helping to ensure that the school meets all of its obligations and ensures a safe and secure environment for the children.

### **Donna James – Parent Governor/Finance and Audit Committee**

I am an Advanced Ultrasound Practitioner and work part-time at Peterborough Hospital. I also lecture and teach Ultrasound to Post Graduates. Prior to having my children I was a member of the Royal Air Force for 9 years and have completed tours of duty to many places including Iraq and Kosovo.

I am married with 3 children, Lucy 10, Thomas 7 and Charlotte 2. We have a very energetic dog Jessie and in my spare time I love to run and I am currently training for the London Marathon.

I applied to become a governor so that I could possibly put something back into, and help the very wonderful school that my children attend.

During my term in office I have absolutely loved seeing the children when attending classroom visits. It is fantastic to see the school in 'action' how the children are engaged in learning and appreciating just how much work and effort the teachers make into providing a stimulating and learning environment.

I have some experience in health and safety assessments and have management experience, having previously been in charge of imaging departments. I am very organised and enjoy a challenge,

### **Dan Fryer – Parent Governor/Health and Safety and Pay and Appeals Committees**

I am a former pupil of the school and my family have farmed in the village for over 30 years. I now live in a neighbouring village and my two daughters attend the school.

I became a governor because of my children attending the school and when a position became available I thought this would be a good way for me to give something back to the school and community.

I am a very new governor and have only just begun my term, but I hope to be a part of many proud and exciting achievements.

I run my own haulage business and I like to think I can bring some 'real world' experience to the board and an outside view of looking into the school environment.

### **Charlie Craven – Parent Governor/Personnel and Curriculum and Pay and Appeals Committees**

I run my own Franchise business with my Husband, Chris, teaching babies and toddlers to swim. I also work directly with our Head Office Aquatics team, tutoring and mentoring other teachers within our Network both here in the UK and further afield. We moved to Melton in 2010 after we brought our business. Previously I worked abroad for a number of years teaching SCUBA diving. I am married with 1 child, Luke, who is 11, in our spare time we like camping in our 1973 VW Campervan – Katie.

I applied to become a governor when Luke was in reception because I wanted to become more involved with our son's school.

My proudest moment was when we achieved our Outstanding Ofsted rating, however my most enjoyable moments are during Governor Visits' when I see the children happy, engaged and eager to learn in their school environment. It's also fantastic to see them confident during all the different performances that are held during the school year.

Running your own business means you have to be able to wear lots of different hats. I have a good understanding of Finance and managing budgets, HR and management experience alongside recruitment. I also have experience of teaching adults, babies, toddlers and pre-school children and enjoy applying all these skills into my governor role.