

## Governor Profiles: September 2023

**Judy Bayliss:** I have been involved in education in Hertfordshire for many years. When I retired, I was very keen to still have a link with a school and was fortunate to be appointed as a governor at Holtsmere End Junior School. I hope I bring my years of experience as a teacher, Headteacher and working in the schools' advisory service to benefit the children in the school. Retirement has given me the opportunity to further pursue my interests and hobbies which include travelling, playing tennis, handicrafts and reading.

**Mark Bilsdon:** I have lived and worked in the local community for the last 12 years and I now have a son in Year 3. Ever since he was born I have taken a keen interest in his development and wanted the opportunity to give back. Never having been involved in education I wanted to expand my knowledge, and the Governor's role has allowed me to bring together the two elements. As a new Governor I am still at the beginning of this journey but so far it has been enlightening and rewarding. I am looking forward to helping Holtsmere End continue it's success.

**Gemma Cunningham:** When I heard last year that there was a vacancy for a school governor, I was keen to apply. Having lived in Woodall farm since I was a child, I am looking forward to giving something back to the community. Helping with various HSA activities, having a child in Year 6, a younger child in the Infants and speaking to many parents over the years, I am excited to get more involved. I have friends who work in schools and I understand how challenging it is. I am looking forward to learning more.

**Elizabeth Deacon:** I am a teacher at Holtsmere End Junior School where I joined as an NQT in 2016. This is my 8th year at the school and I am currently in Year 6, which I thoroughly enjoy. I am extremely passionate about teaching and have taken on the roles of Maths Subject Leader and Head of Upper Key Stage 2 in the school. Over the last three years, I have enjoyed mentoring student teachers and, at the end of the academic year 2021/22, I joined the governing body as a Staff Governor. In my spare time I love to read, exercise and spend time with friends and family.

**Paul Heskin:** I am the Deputy Headteacher at Holtsmere End Junior School. I take a lead in staff development and SEND support with a focus on interventions across the school. This is my twelfth year at Holtsmere and my twenty first year in teaching. I enjoy keeping fit in my spare time by taking part in local fun runs.

**Emma McGuigan:** I have been teaching for over 26 years and have been at Holtsmere End Junior School for 17 years, starting as a class teacher, becoming Deputy Head and then Headteacher for the past ten years. I still enjoy teaching, when I have the opportunity, and enjoy my job as Headteacher. I have 22 year old twins who attended both Holtsmere End Infant School and the Junior School. I enjoy reading and travelling in my spare time, as well as watching football.

**Alina Mone:** I have a background in Health and Safety, but four years ago I started to get more involved in Sustainability and the Environmental field as my degree is in Environmental Engineering and this was always my interest. I am so pleased to have the opportunity to be a governor and try to use my knowledge to help the Governing Body. I have a daughter in Year 5 at the school and I am very interested to see how she will accommodate and develop her learning journey here.

**Phil Murray:** After careers in management consulting, secondary school Maths teaching and teacher training, I am now retired. I have been involved in school governance since 1996, serving originally as a governor and then Chair of Governors at Marlborough School in St Albans and as a Clerk to the Governors at a number of schools in Hertfordshire. In September 2012, I ceased to be Clerk to the Governors at Holtsmere End Junior School and became a Co-opted Governor. I hope to help the school through my diverse perspectives on education.

**Grant Shipton:** As my 10 year old daughter has progressed through the school years, my knowledge of the education system has grown. My wife works in another local primary school and hearing her experiences has also given me an understanding of the challenges that schools face.

Being a Governor however has given me the direct insight into what is required to run a successful school and I am grateful to have been offered the opportunity. Working in finance has allowed me to assist the school on this subject. However, I am pleased to have also been able to support in many other areas that impact the running and the governance of the school. In short, becoming a Governor has been an interesting and rewarding experience and one which I would not hesitate to recommend.

**Pat Stell:** My professional background is as a Chartered Building Surveyor specialising in Commercial Landlord and Tenant work. I am also a qualified Litigation Lawyer and am a member of the RICS and the Law Society. I now run my own property investment company. My interest in education comes from not really learning how to pass exams until I was 19 years old but, when the penny dropped, it became much easier so that I now have three separate degrees in Politics, Law and Surveying. This is my first opportunity to be a school governor and I hope that I can use my knowledge about property and related legal issues to help the school. I am passionate about sport and know that I have always learnt more about myself and others through participation in team and individual sports. In a nutshell, I am here to help and do my bit for the community.