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.

**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.

**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.

**Tom Caster**

I graduated from the University of Nottingham in 2009 with a BA in Politics with First Class Honours. Upon leaving university, I joined Ultra Electronics plc, a FTSE 250 engineering firm which specialised in the defence, aerospace, transport and energy markets, initially as a marketing analyst for one of the business units before being promoted to a communications and investor relations role in the group's global head office.

At the beginning of 2013, I left Ultra to attend law school in London and completed the Graduate Diploma in Law (with a commendation) in 2013 and the Legal Practise Course (with a distinction) in 2014.

In September 2014, I joined the law firm Sidley Austin LLP as a trainee solicitor in their London office. I typically represent investment funds and banks on a wide range of financial products often involving securitisations and other structured financings, such as repurchase agreements, with a real estate nexus, as well as more general finance matters.

I married my wife, Kate, in 2017 and we have a three and a half year old son, Monty, and a six month old daughter, Livia. We moved from London to Debden in 2018, where we've resided ever since.

**Rachel Stoddart**

I have a BA honours in Primary Education and I am currently self employed as an Ofsted registered childminder. I do this job alongside taking care of my one year old. I also have a six year old, who is a pupil in Minnows class at the school. As a childminder I work with young children in the early years foundation stage, therefore, I have a good understanding of the early years framework. Previous to achieving my degree in education, I competed a foundation degree in paramedic science and was a registered paramedic for some time. After deciding that this career path was not the one for me, I taught first aid in schools and the community whilst studying part time for my teaching degree. I am glad to be part of the team of governors and feel that my skills and training will support me in my role.

I am married and my husband is a soldier in the British Army, like many other parents of children at the school. I am familiar with some of the challenges faced by families linked to the Army and I hope that my experiences will help the school to support and engage with similar families.

I enjoy being active and try to go running regularly. I also coordinate a weekly walking group for the station partners at Carver Barracks and I am part of the Station Partner's Committee, where we organise events to help support each other and to bring the community together.

**Joanne Hart**

Having graduated with a degree in Law from University College London, I trained and was called to the Bar as a Barrister in 2008. I then joined the Financial Ombudsman Service, adjudicating on complex insurance disputes - before joining the Financial Conduct Authority to lead on their work regulating the sale and conduct of insurance business.

In 2016, I joined Brit - a global insurer - to lead their Conduct Risk and Complaints teams, before moving to another insurer - Arch - at the start of 2022, to head their Conduct Risk and Product Management functions.

I live in Thaxted with my husband, Ashley, and our four year old son, Harrison - who has just joined Debden in Ducklings class. We live alongside a small flock of chickens, most of which escape regularly, two cats and about 40,000 bees.