

Ponteland High School - Governing Body 2020-21 Profiles

	<p>Carole Butler (Co-opted Governor) Attendance and Safeguarding Governor</p> <p>Originally from south west Lancashire, I have been a Ponteland resident for over 30 years; both my children were born in the north east and were educated through the Ponteland schools. During the whole of my career I worked in the NHS and have a science background. I have served as a school governor for many years, first at Ponteland First School, then at Richard Coates and have been a co-opted governor at Ponteland High School for six years.</p>
	<p>Keith Carruthers (Co-opted Governor, Chair of Finance, Premises & Personnel)</p> <p>I have been a governor since 2011, initially being elected as a parent governor. My son and daughter were educated within the Ponteland Partnership.</p> <p>I work as a senior manager for County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service having responsibility for Training, Assets and assurance. I enjoy giving my time to help the development of the school to enable young people to achieve their full potential.</p>
	<p>Modaser Choudhary (Parent Governor)</p> <p>I have recently become a parent governor at the school. I am a qualified accountant and having spent several years working in the Financial Services in both the UK and abroad, I am currently serving as Finance Director at Durham University.</p>
	<p>Pat Cox (LA Governor) SEND/Safeguarding Governor</p> <p>I have lived in Ponteland for almost 40 years after returning from living and working in the Middle East in the Banking sector. Once my daughter was fully settled in school I returned to the work place initially on a very part time basis firstly with the Department of Trade and Industry and then with a leading Children's charity. This became the most satisfying 20+ years of any job I had had and together with my previous experience, this lead me to become a governor at Ponteland High School.</p> <p>It is a great privilege to work with our governors and school professionals to achieve the best outcomes for our students in a nurturing but challenging environment.</p>
	<p>Pam Frain (Co-opted Governor, Vice Chair of Finance, Premises & Personnel)</p> <p>I live locally in Ponteland and both my sons were pupils at Ponteland High School before moving on to university. Having worked as an accountant in business for many years, I am able contribute this experience to support the school in financial and budgeting decisions.</p> <p>I served on Governing bodies at various schools in Newcastle before becoming a governor at PHS.</p>



Kelly Graham (Parent Governor)

I have worked in education since 2000 and have a keen interest in secondary and further education. I have worked as an Education Consultant for many years providing advice, guidance and services for assessment to a number of Awarding Organisations, using my experiences as a Lecturer, External Quality Assurer and Examiner. I am currently working as Lead in Continuous Improvement for a local Awarding Body. I have two children in Ponteland High School.



Julie Hall (Staff Associate)

I have been a teacher here at Ponteland High School in the Languages department for over 10 years now, and previously worked in an 11- 18 comprehensive school in Bristol. I thoroughly enjoy teaching here, as I work with fantastic students, and extremely dedicated colleagues. I joined the Governing Body as a Staff Associate in 2017 because I want to help the school to keep moving forwards, and be the best it can be for young people in the local area.



Sean Harvey

I am a teacher at Belsay School, currently working in Y5/6 and hope that my perspective from a feeder school and the small school context will be helpful to my role as an Academy Committee member at PHS. My time as a community governor at Corbridge Middle School, helped to build my governance experience and the 'critical friend' role of governing bodies and committees

My previous professional experience (as an ambulance controller in the NHS) plays an important role in my teaching practice, helping me to understand the work context which we prepare students for. I am a serving magistrate; the experience of which gives me a particular understanding of social justice issues and the challenges which some of our young people may face.



Barry Hirst (Chair of Governors)

Resident of Darras Hall, married with two children who were educated in the Ponteland (Darras Hall First, Ponteland Middle and High) schools and then went on to study at Leeds (criminology) and Newcastle (music) Universities. Professor of Physiology at Newcastle University, in the Faculty of Medical Sciences. Previously Dean of Postgraduate Studies, responsible for masters and doctoral student recruitment, training, progress and quality assurance. A University appointed student Academic Appeals adjudicator. Currently responsible for the Faculty of Medical Sciences estates strategy, including new buildings, and chair of Faculty Health & Safety committee, requiring Institute of Occupational Safety and Health accredited Leading Safely training.



Lisa Lamb (Parent Governor)

I joined the Academy Committee as I believe that education provides the foundation to a successful and happy future for the young people of our community. I believe that Ponteland High School is an aspirational and dynamic secondary school which is in the continuing process of very significant development and challenges at this time. Rigorous and clearly documented scrutiny and accountability enhances the reputation of this institution that is at the heart of our local community.

In my job, I daily advise magistrates on the law. This involves listening to often complex submissions from both prosecution and defence and then providing lay magistrates with a definitive interpretation on how they should approach their decision-making. I therefore have considerable experience of listening to competing perspectives, applying and interpreting legislation and caselaw, separating the wheat from the chaff and advising in a way that is clear and understandable for all.



Kieran McGrane (Headteacher)

I have worked in senior leadership positions in schools since 2000 and have been a Headteacher for over 10 years, joining Ponteland High School in September 2012 as my second headship. My overriding priorities are to ensure that our students are happy, feel safe and secure and achieve exceptionally well within an environment built on mutual care, respect and the importance of relationships.



Stephen Oliver (Staff Governor)

I have been teaching for 27 years and I have enjoyed a number of roles at Ponteland High School since 2001. I have also worked with a number of examination boards. From 2005-2009 I was a governor of the school and I look forward to returning to the role.

The school's ethos of viewing each child in our care as an individual has helped each student to thrive. It has been a real pleasure being an active part of a successful school as it goes from strength to strength through continued improvement.



Nigel Twelves (Co-opted Governor, Chair of Achievement & Standards)

My name is Dr Nigel Twelves and I am local GP and an 'Old Boy' of Ponteland High School, having been a student from 1978 to 1983. All 3 of my daughters attended the high school and have successfully progressed to University and my son is looking forward to starting year 9 in Autumn 2018.

I have always championed the school and I am proud to be a governor supporting the staff and pupils as to we steer our way through the the next chapter of our story as a Secondary School.

As the Chair of the Achievement and Standards Committee, I believe that every pupil should be able to achieve their academic potential and leave with fond memories of their time at Ponteland High School.

When I'm not doctoring or governing, I enjoy sailing, walking and scuba diving.

