

## **Governor Pen Portraits**

### **Louise Costigan - Parent Governor**

I was appointed as a parent governor in January 2020. I live in Chellaston and was previously a governor at Chellaston Junior School for six years. I have two boys who both attend Chellaston Academy and I'm presently a part-time Lecturer at Loughborough College.

### **Carla Estrada- Co-opted Governor**

I have been a Governor since January 2020 and this is my first Governor post. I currently work at Rolls-Royce as a Finance Manager, and I have previous experience as an auditor, working to guarantee adherence to strict finance and governance frameworks.

I am a firm believer in the importance of the education of children to guarantee the best future for our community. I count myself lucky to be a part of the Academy's Governance and Leadership team during these unprecedented times, and I look forward to serving alongside passionate and talented individuals, putting my skills to work for the Academy's future.

### **Sandra Fletcher - Chair Co-opted Governor**

I have been involved in governance for many years, with experience in a primary school, academy, special school, and Pupil Referral Unit.

I am a National Leader of Governance and in this role sit on Interim Executive Boards to support the establishment of strong governance.

I am currently self-employed as an educational consultant and work extensively in the area of governance and school leadership. My background is in secondary education but I also support the leadership development of a group of primary heads.

At Chellaston Academy we are lucky to have a highly skilled dedicated staff team supported by a Local Governing Board who share my commitment to provide the best possible educational experience for all pupils. It is essential that we ensure all of our pupils get the best life chances possible, hence my work with school leaders and governors who have an overwhelming remit to secure this for them.

### **Chris Merrick – Community Governor**

I have been a governor for over ten years and currently chair the governing board of a nursery federation. In addition to this I am also vice chair of a primary school governing body. I am a national leader of governance and have been involved in a number of governing body reviews aimed at improving practice and have delivered training focused on governor priorities.

My background is in Early Education. I have worked at all levels in education, from playgroup leader to Primary school headteacher, local authority adviser, Ofsted inspector and consultant working all over the world. I also worked in a large International School in Switzerland with children from 3 to 18. Though semi-retired I still do some work to support early years settings and schools and remain active in fighting for the best education for all our children and young people.

Married with two children and four grandchildren who keep my passion for education alive, I am an avid gardener – though not always a successful one and I enjoy walking, preferably when the weather is good!

### **Debs Robinson – Co-opted Governor**

I have been a governor since May 2021 and I am also a governor at another school in Derby. I currently work at the University of Derby where I am a Professor of SEND and Inclusion and where most of my work is research. I have previous experience of working as a primary teacher, deputy headteacher and special needs co-ordinator, as well as working as a teacher educator at Nottingham Trent University, the University of Derby and the University of Nottingham.

I have always been committed to inclusion in schools and all of my professional work has focussed on how to make schools more equitable for children and young people with Special Needs and Disabilities. My eldest child has autism and my youngest, severe dyslexia but they have both made their way in education and in the world, and I'm proud of them.

### **Heather Scullion – Staff Governor**

My name is Heather Scullion and I am the staff governor for Chellaston Academy. I have held this role for three of my four years at the Academy. I am a teacher of Physical Education and began my time here as Head of PE. For the last two years I have been a Student Progress Leader within the sixth form.

### **Carolyn Toogood - Parent Governor**

I have been a Parent Governor at the Academy since the start of 2020. I have run my own business for over 6 years and prior to that I was an IT manager for 10 years. I have 2 children at the Academy and I have always tried to ensure they get the best education and chances available to them.

I believe that Chellaston Academy is the right place to provide this, and I'm delighted to work with the staff and other Governors to ensure that all our students receive the best learning and opportunities during these important years of their lives.