



LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY

Local Advisory Board

Lesley Stewart

Chair of the Local Governing Body



Having now lived in Westlea for the past three years, I thought it was time to give something back to my local community, having worked in the education sector for the last 18 years, I thought it would be a good way to use the skills and knowledge that I have.

Most of my career has been in Primary education, currently I am now working for a charity who enable young people of different abilities to prepare themselves for the world of work, whichever path they chose to follow, sixth form, University, apprenticeships or straight in to a work placement.

As a Local Authority Board Governor, I would like to help students and the school fulfil their potential!

Justin Robbins

Vice Chair of the Local Governing Body &

LPA SEND Governor



I have lived in Grange Park since 2002 and both of my children attended Lydiard Park Academy. I manage my own business through which I help organisations, including schools, to communicate efficiently and effectively with their various audiences. I am also a British Triathlon coach and Head Coach at Swindon Triathlon Club. In this capacity, I work with groups and individuals to help them to achieve their personal triathlon goals through providing training plans and coached sessions.

I see my role as parent governor to be a fantastic opportunity to share my experience and passion for improving communication for the benefit of LPA; its teachers, parents and students. It is an important and critical role within the West Swindon community, which I take very seriously and am committed to devoting as much time as my commitments allow to make a positive difference.

Gary Pearson

Principal of the Academy



I originally joined the school in 1996 as an NQT in the Humanities Department, teaching Geography at GCSE. I became a Head of Year in 1999 and saw the year group through to the end of Year 11 in 2001.

I then became an Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for the Pastoral Structure within the school.

Since 2005 I have been one of the Deputy Headteachers, referred to as Vice Principal, when the School gained Academy status and became Lydiard Park Academy.

With the growth of Park Academies Trust I became Operational Principal in November 2016 and in this role I am a Governor on the Local Advisory Board.

Rachel Templeman

Staff Teaching Governor



When I was at University, studying Surface Design for Textiles and Fashion, I often got asked to show other students how to do different techniques and explain processes; this made me realise that I really enjoyed giving other people the knowledge and tools to be able to develop their creative potential. I then decided that the time was right for me to use the skills I had developed to train as a teacher of Design and Technology.

One of the things I enjoy most about being a teacher is supporting and helping students grow and develop, not just in my subject area but to see how they grow as young people and future citizens.

Jade Batten



Having lived in West Swindon for a number of years I was keen to undertake the role of Governor in a local secondary school and as an ex-student of Greendown school I felt LPA was the ideal place to undertake this role.

I currently work as a Health Visitor within Swindon and for Public Health as an Infant Feeding Coordinator. Before undertaking these roles, I was a midwife at GWH. In my current roles I am responsible for ensuring the children of Swindon have the best possible start in life and ensure they are 'school ready' by the time they reach the age of 5. I also contribute to the strategic leadership of Swindon's Baby Friendly Initiative. As well as working in these roles, I am currently undertaking my masters in Strategic Leadership for Health and Social care at the University of South Wales.

I strongly believe that health and education go hand in hand for young people and am excited to be able to bring the two areas together to enable the students at LPA to thrive in both of these key areas. I have a keen interest in safeguarding children and see my role as an excellent opportunity to share my enthusiasm and passion for this important subject

Claire Ashley



I am mum to 4 boys all of whom attend, or have attended LPA. Being a Swindon girl from the get go, and living predominantly in West Swindon LPA has been our school of choice. Whilst I work at Nationwide Building Society on Digital Projects I'm definitely not at all techie, but I am a keen baker and love everything crafty.

I volunteered to be a governor so that I could stay close to my youngest boys as they go through school, but to also have an opportunity in both supporting the school, making a positive impact and giving something back to the community.

Michelle Evans



I'm Scottish, but relocated to Wiltshire 10 years ago. I studied Music BA Music the Royal Northern College of Music (Manchester). From university, I was presented with an opportunity not to be missed to perform in Japan, and the 6-week tour turned into a 6-year tenure in the USA, where I was lucky enough to arrange orchestrations and perform in some of the world's most beautiful and prestigious concert halls and arenas. I returned to the UK to care for my grandmother, and after settling back in the UK, I started working in Local Government and started a family of my own. I relocated to Wiltshire in 2009 and both of my children now attend LPA. I'm a great believer in equity for all, and being the voice of reason. I believe that education is a core foundation in life and want to be part of my children's journey through their school life.

Jan Miller

I have been a part of the education community in many varying roles throughout my working life, a Qualified Secondary Teacher I started my career in Yorkshire before a move brought my family to Swindon.

A passion for cycling, running and keeping fit saw me set up my own business providing sports coaches to teach in schools in Swindon and the surrounding areas. I believe that sport and activity is key to a child's development both physically and mentally. Children need to be active and feel a part of something and this is what sport brings them. Through this business I also employ young people out of school and train them on the Apprenticeship Programme, to be effective and responsible Sports Coaches who can give children a positive experience of sport and activity.

I felt it was time to do something for the community that had made me feel so welcome when I moved here in 2003. I believe that every young person has something to offer and has a purpose in life. As adults in education it is our job to make sure every child reaches their potential.



Zoe McCormick