

Whitleigh Primary and Sir John Hunt CSC Federated Governing Board

Governor Profiles



JOHN BALE: LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR AND CHAIR

I have worked in Children's Services at Plymouth City Council for the last 7 years. I mainly deal with Post-16 education and training, including work on school and college performance data. Previously, I have held roles in a number of government agencies, mainly linked to youth and adult training.

My main role is supporting schools, colleges and training providers maintain and develop an offer that helps young people gain qualifications that will support them through their life and successfully move from school into further / higher education or apprenticeships / work. This includes working with organisations providing impartial advice and guidance (e.g. Careers South West) to ensure young people understand the options available to them from 16, and the range of providers and courses which will support their education and skills development.

I have a particular interest in technical / vocational options for students and developing education / business links to provide students experiences of the world of work. This includes supporting schools work with training providers in the city in delivery of vocational studies at sixth form and identifying apprenticeship routes from 18.

I hope my skills can help improve outcomes for pupils and students within the WPSJH Federation. I look forward to working with staff, governors and other professionals in my role on the governing body.



LAURA HILLARY: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR (WHITLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL)

I have been a civil servant for 20 years working within the Department for Work and Pensions. My current role involves working with families, individuals and highly vulnerable people to provide support and advice, ensuring they are in the best possible position to make effective life changes and decisions. I liaise with various partners and agencies to establish information on behalf of our customers and work alongside agencies. I am used to dealing with different culture and religions. I am confident in dealing with mental health issues and have a broad understanding of the challenges faced by parents who have children with such issues. My job is demanding, challenging yet very rewarding.


I am always keen to make a difference and I believe that the role as a governor will allow me to draw on my experiences to support a happy and healthy school environment.



TOM DUNHAM: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I am one of the leaders/ministers of the Salvation Army in Whitleigh along with my wife Rachel. We have a son who was born in March 2020.

I moved to Plymouth in 2019 to take up my current role, following 2 years in London as part of the recruitment team for Salvation Army ministers. Prior to this I was the leader of the Salvation Army in Bo'ness in East Scotland for 3 years. My working career before this was in data analysis with Network Rail and a market research company.

	<p>My current role in the Salvation Army includes the day-to-day running of the work of the Salvation Army in Whitleigh, and as a Christian minister I am responsibly for leading the local congregation in worship and pastoral care. The Salvation Army is known for its hands on approach to community work. In Whitleigh this includes a wide range of services to the local community to all ages as the needs arise.</p> <p>I have a desire to see those in our community flourish. Being part of the governing body is another way in which I want to serve the local community.</p>
	<p>BEN MANNING: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR</p> <p>With an unwavering commitment and passion for improving the outcomes for all learners, I have taught and led in the education sector for over 15 years. I am Deputy Principal (Curriculum and Quality) at a local Further Education College and enthusiastic about continually enhancing learning experiences through innovative and responsive curriculum opportunities alongside aspirational teaching and learning strategies.</p> <p>Throughout my professional career, both in employment and through my voluntary roles, I work with the strong belief that all students deserve the best learning experience to enable them to realise their full potential as valued members of society. I live in Plymouth with my wife and two young children and it's an absolute pleasure to be able to contribute to the school's ambitions and play a part in its future success.</p>
N/R	<p>KATHERINE ELLIOTT: STAFF GOVERNOR</p> <p>My name is Katherine Elliot, I work at Whitleigh Primary as a KS1 teacher. I have always lived and worked in Plymouth. I studied English Literature and Education Studies for 3 years at the University College of St Mark and St John and then worked as a teaching assistant for 1 year before deciding to do my PGCE in primary teaching. This is now my 5th year of teaching and in order to be fully engaged in my role, I felt it would be beneficial to be a part of the governing body where I can find out more about the way in which the school is run.</p>
	<p>CATHERINE JANE: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR</p> <p>I have lived in Devon or Cornwall since moving to the West Country from Kent. After 26 years as a civil servant, where I was leading projects and managing teams, I am now very pleased to have time to support our school and community as a Governor. I am committed to helping to give young people the support needed to navigate life successfully.</p> <p>I am very lucky to have two amazing daughters (and son in laws!) and three lively grandchildren who I love to spend time with. I am a keen gardener and love all types of crafting and live music.</p>
	<p>KYEIYANNE JAMES: CO-OPTED GOVERNOR</p>
N/R	<p>JULIE BEVAN: PRINCIPAL, SIR JOHN HUNT CSC</p>
N/R	<p>MARK DYSON: HEADTEACHER, WHITLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL</p>