



Governor Statements: updated September 2018

Chairperson:

Carolyn Wright- Coopted Governor

I joined the governing body at Samuel Laycock in May 2017, taking on the role of Vice Chair of the Governing Body and Training Link Governor. As of September 2018, I have now taken the role of Chair of the Governing Body, following the retirement of the previous Chair. I am an Office Manager at a local sixth form college, and have 15 years' experience in leadership and management, within education and other public sector organisations. I am also a member of the governing body at a local academy, West Hill School, and held the chair for 4 years from 2013 to 2017.

I bring skills in strategic management, problem solving and decision-making to my role of governor. Samuel Laycock is a school which provides much needed support and education to the community within Tameside, and by both supporting and challenging I hope to contribute to the continued success and improvement of the school.

I am married with two children and have lived in the Tameside area all my life. I am also a Rainbow Guide leader at St George's in Stalybridge, and the group treasurer for the 5th/7th Dukinfield Scout Group.

Vice Chairperson:

Joyce Howarth (MBE JP)- Coopted Governor

I was appointed Co-opted Governor in 2014 and Vice Chair in July 2018. I serve on the Finance Committee and Standards & Curriculum Committee. I retired from my main employment in 2003 having worked for 26 years for a Charity. I was also privileged to serve as a Magistrate in Tameside for 31 years.

Previously my main experience in the field of education was through my own two children and two grandchildren having been educated locally and I have always looked upon education as the backbone for everyone in society. I am committed to the best quality of education for Tameside and in particular for teenagers and young people with learning difficulties. I strongly believe that working closely with families enhances pupils' work ethics, encourages consideration for other pupils and staff and makes for a beneficial and satisfying school experience and support for their future working life.

I believe experience gained during my full time employment as director of a charity and as a non-executive director of Greater Manchester Ambulance Service together with my ongoing voluntary work as Chair of Friends of Tameside Young Carers, Chair of a luncheon club for older Bangladesh people and a Governor at Pennine Care NHS Trust brings to my role as Governor at Samuel Laycock different aspects of scrutiny, strategy and financial challenge. I have good business knowledge, am able to see the wider picture, work well under pressure and will endeavour to support our school in providing to each pupil a very high standard of education.





Parent Governors:

Ann Whittington:

I have been a parent of a pupil at Samuel Laycock since September 2015 and have another young person joining the school in September 2018. I have been a parent governor since May 2017.

I joined the governing body because I wanted to support my young people in every way possible and saw supporting the school in becoming the best Special High school it can be as a way of doing so.

I have been a parent for 42 years and worked with children in a professional capacity for 30 years. I believe in the right of every child to have the best education available to support them in reaching their maximum potential and life chances and that as adults and parents/teachers it is our job to ensure that our young people's needs are met.

Jane O'Brien:

I am a Parent Governor. I have a full time position within a Primary School where I am an office administrator. I served on the governing body at the primary school for 6 years. I joined the governing body at Samuel Laycock in March 2018 when my daughter was in Year 7. I have a passion for ensuring the children have the best possible education and become well-rounded children through a variety of experiences.

Local Authority Governor:

Jane Woolfenden

As well as being the local authority nominated governor for Samuel Laycock School I am Headteacher- and Governor- of Lyndhurst Community Primary School, Dukinfield and a member of the National Association of Head Teachers. I am the Safeguarding Link Governor.

Other Coopted Governors:

Mohamed Karim

I am a local businessman- director and proprietor of KR Apparels Ltd and a local taxi-driver- and have been on the governing body since 2018. I am a member of the Rotary Club, GMBC union and am the ethnic minorities officer of the Ashton Under Lyne Constituency Labour Party.


Vacancy

Staff Governors:

Andrew Foord:

As well as being Executive Headteacher of Samuel Laycock School it is also my privilege to be on the Governing Body. I have been teaching in special schools for 27 years and had both a management role and a teaching commitment for most of that time. I have worked in 4 special schools prior to Samuel Laycock including playing a leading role in setting up Newfield School in Blackburn and have been the Headteacher of Cromwell High School for 15 years- where I am also a governor. I was asked to support Samuel Laycock when the previous Headteacher had to leave





due to health difficulties. I immediately became committed to ensuring the best possible education and support for our fantastic students and inspired by the incredible potential of our school. I therefore joined the team permanently to ensure the rapid improvement of our offer to pupils. Ofsted confirmed our self-evaluation in September 2017 and we are working extremely hard to address all the issues identified. I am also Executive Headteacher of Cromwell High School for pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties. I believe that my role between the two schools represents a major strength in the coordination and development of Tameside's provision for secondary aged pupils with learning difficulties as it optimises the way in which the two schools support and challenge each other to continually improve our service for our pupils and their families. I am married with 3 children and a member of the National Association of Head Teachers.

Nicola Hallam:

I am a staff governor at Samuel Laycock School and also the English lead. I enjoy teaching English across school we have the most amazing students at Samuel Laycock. I have been teaching for 15 years and have previously worked as leadership in Primary schools and as a Specialist Leader for education across Greater Manchester supporting other schools. I love teaching its my passion and I keep myself busy outside of school with my three young children.