

## **Governor Information for Website**

### **Kate Belinis**

Kate Belinis, is the CEO of CDA Herts since 2006. She has worked in Hertfordshire and London for many years as CEO in the voluntary sector. Prior to her voluntary and community roles, she worked in the private sector for 20 years in the analytical/testing of retail products and quality assurance sectors. Kate has worked for organisations working with ex-offenders, victims, women's groups, long term unemployed, low educational aspirations, and provision of training and infrastructure support for people and communities living and working in rural and urban areas.

Kate continues to maintain an active role in several volunteering areas and sits on several Boards in Hertfordshire: Herts Young Homeless; Herts Equality Council and Ware Arts Centre. She is also Chair of Stevenage World Forum for Ethnic Minorities and Chair of MENTER (Minority Ethnic Network in The Eastern Region).

Kate was Chair of Governors, Kingshill Infants School, Ware and was a Governor of North Herts College (retired in 2015).

Her passion is development of sustainable communities. Her skills, expertise and experiences are in project management; community development, infrastructure support services and strategic creative thinking. She is a trainer for Charity "Better Boards" and advisor to charities on their organisational, workforce development and sustainability.

She was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Hertfordshire in 2011.

### **Peter Dougherty**

A retired building surveyor with 40 years' experience divided between private practice and the public sector. Involved, for 20 years, from 1988 in the maintenance and regeneration of the school building stock of Hertfordshire County Council. In H.C.C.'s major change project "The Way We Work" which reduced the number of council offices from 52 to 4 over a three-year period, I led both the property and facilities management work streams.

Former President of both the Chief Building Surveyors Society (2004) and the Federation of Property Societies (2006-07).

I work as a volunteer in the Oxfam bookshop in Hertford, responsible for the biography section and also the branch's Health and Safety officer.

### **Howard Freed**

I had a 37-year career in teaching in five London Secondary Schools. I taught Economics & Politics. From 1991 to 2013 I was a Headteacher, 1991-2000 Leytonstone School, Waltham Forest and 2000-2013 Nower Hill High School, Harrow.

I worked for seven years as a National Leader of Education, supporting other schools and coaching & mentoring headteachers and school leaders. I was also one of the founding

headteachers (in 2004) of the London Challenge, a collaborative network of schools which raised standards in many London schools.

Since September 2013 I have worked as an independent Education Consultant. I coach & mentor heads and school leaders in a number of secondary schools in and outside of London. I help to lead the Harrow Collegiate Teaching School Alliance which consists of 24 member schools and which runs an extensive range of professional development programmes for over 400 school staff per year as well as school to school challenge & support, research & development activities and initial teacher training. I work for Herts for Learning on their Moving to New Headship Programme.

In addition to being Chair of the Presdales Governing Board, I am the Chair of the Governing Board of The Jubilee Alternative Provision Academy in Harrow, a free school which was created in 2012 by the Heads of the Harrow High Schools.

### **Jackie Harvey**

Jackie has 15 years' experience as a school Governor at Presdales and in a Primary School. Following 2 terms as an elected Parent Governor at Presdales School, she is now a Community Governor. Jackie has experience as Chair of Governors, Vice Chair and Committees Chair. Jackie is a hardworking and supportive Governor. She is the Link Governor for Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education.

Jackie trained and worked as a nurse. Her career progression led her to Adult and Paediatric Intensive Care nursing, where she was a Junior Sister and had a specialised skilled role in the emergency retrieval team of transporting critically ill children around the South of England, both by land and air. Her husband works as a freelance musician working around the world and this has led her to take an extended career break to raise their three daughters; one of which is at University completing the next stage of her education and her other two daughters are studying at Presdales.

Jackie returned to University and graduated with a Degree in Law and French. She has involved in herself in her children's activities and takes the lead in Disability Swimming in the East Region and has just qualified as a British Swimming Referee. Jackie has recently set herself a different challenge of leading and training a Primary school choir.

### **Geoff Hayter**

I am a parent governor. I have been a school governor for 16 years and at Presdales I am very pleased to be the link governor for the Pupil Premium and the Geography Department and I work with staff to enhance the educational experience for students. I am also a member of the finance committee. In work I am a Finance Business Partner providing financial support and accounting expertise to support the delivery of multi million pound Council Services. I have also clerked many school governing bodies over the past 15 years and have a very sound knowledge

and understanding of school governance arrangements. My three daughters have all attended Presdales and I am proud to be able to support the school in my role as a governor.

### **Alison Hobson**

After graduating with an economics degree, I joined Tesco, initially working in finance qualifying as a management accountant before moving to marketing. I have been privileged to have delivered some game changing Clubcard initiatives to customers and more recently head up the Clubcard offers and direct mail team. I am fortunate to be able to work part time, which allows me to balance my professional and home life.

I have 2 daughters in Year 7 & 9 and feel very fortunate that the girls attend such an excellent school that excels both academically and in extra curriculum activities. I am proud to be able to support the school in my role as governor. I am on the finance committee and the link governor for maths.

In my spare time I enjoy cooking, gardening, travel and supporting the girls in their various sports – hockey, cricket, athletics – both as a parent, coaching and in an organisation and fundraising capacity.

### **Mike Robinson**

After reading Greats (Ancient History and Philosophy) at Oxford, I went on to gain extensive local government finance experience at London Borough, District and County Council level. I took a leading role in the introduction of Local Management of Schools (LMS) in Hertfordshire, heading up the School Funding Unit and working closely with governors and head-teachers to assist them in gaining maximum benefit from their new responsibilities. I established the Financial Services for Schools team, which grew from 1 member of staff to 60, fully funded by trading with Hertfordshire schools. My work with Hertfordshire Business Services and other trading organisations culminated in becoming the first Chief Finance Officer of Hertfordshire Catering Limited, a successful and fully commercial company with a turnover in excess of £30m. I am also Treasurer of Courtyard Arts and Community Centre in Hertford and have in recent years enthusiastically renewed an old interest in Russian language (and culture, history etc.)

### **Margaret Stanley**

I have spent most of my working life in the Education sector, firstly as an administrator in the former Education Department at Hertfordshire County Council where I was able to gain considerable experience in many aspects of school management from a non-teaching perspective. Following a career break to bring up my 3 sons I returned to the educational environment as a primary school secretary for 7 years before joining Presdales School in 1997 as Finance and Premises Manager. I am currently a staff governor.

### **Maddie Waller**

Maddie spent over 20 years working for a global pharmaceutical company as a Meeting Account Manager leading project teams to deliver international congresses, doctor symposia, national conferences and advisory boards on time and within budget. She worked collaboratively with customers, clients and global support functions and led third party suppliers to deliver results. Maddie began her career as a professionally trained personal assistant developing strong organisational and planning skills. She now works part-time as a freelance Event Planner which enables her to give the necessary time to the governor role. She has a daughter at Presdales and a son now at University.

Maddie has also been a governor at Abel Smith primary school in Hertford for 7 years, serving as Chair for 4 years. As a governor at an outstanding school, she understands the need to be supportive whilst providing challenge to ensure the best possible education for all young people.

### **Matthew Warren**

Since September 2016, I have been the Headteacher at Presdales School. After graduating from the Royal Academy of Music I embarked on a freelance musical career as a trumpeter, before going back to university to complete a PGCE. I spent 12 years in a large, outstanding school in Harrow, where I held numerous roles including Head of Music, Head of Year, Assistant Head for teaching and Learning and Assistant Head for Pastoral care in KS3. In September 2012 I became a Deputy Headteacher at a highly successful school in Harpenden, where I had responsibility for Curriculum and Achievement. I thoroughly enjoy my role and feel very privileged to be the Headteacher of our outstanding school. I am committed to ensuring that every child at Presdales has an outstanding education that prepares them both academically and socially for the next stage in their life.

### **Melanie Yates**

I am a teacher of Modern Languages with 34 years of experience, teaching French and German to children of all abilities and from a variety of social backgrounds at KS 2, 3, 4 and 5. I have lived and worked in Germany and France and in a teaching capacity in Essex, Hertfordshire and Barnet in 5 different schools with a variety of different roles in addition to my teaching. These include Head of Faculty, Head of House, Head of Year, European coordinator and in an advisory capacity for Essex County Council. I also completed the process of becoming an AST before coming to Presdales as Head of German in 2000. During my teaching career there have been many changes which I have always embraced with enthusiasm and view as an opportunity to learn new things and improve standards.

I have always been thoroughly involved in the whole life of all the schools I have worked in. These include a 12 year period on the PTA, 2 terms as a parent and co-opted governor at my children's Primary School, numerous roles on town twinning/exchange committees with France and Germany (resulting in being recommended for the Freedom of the City, Sens, France). This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> term as Teacher Governor at Presdales, which both of my daughters attended. As a governor, I sit on the Premises Committee and represent our staff.

I am married. My husband is a Quantity Surveyor and I have 2 daughters and a son, of whom I am very proud.

## **Katie Paxton-Doggett**

Katie Paxton-Doggett is qualified as a Solicitor and Chartered Company Secretary. She works with schools and is appointed as Company Secretary and adviser to a number of single academies and Multi-Academies. Her work embraces a range of issues relating to corporate governance and the role of the Board of Directors as well as providing specific company secretarial guidance and support. Katie has substantial experience of the issues involved in converting to academy status and the challenges of running an academy.

Katie is the author of 'How to Run an Academy School' and has a second book focusing on the opportunities available to academies and other schools due out in October 2015. She regularly writes features for trade press and other national and local publications.