

Governor Profiles 2016-2017

Tracey Baxter Profile

I have worked in education for my whole career, firstly as a secondary science teacher and then as a Local Authority science consultant. I am now an independent science consultant working with schools to support science education. I also write science textbooks and published resources and present at educational conferences.

Education is a passion because I see the difference that good teachers and good schools can make, not only to a child's academic success but also to their experiences, opportunities and life choices.

I have two great boys who make anything worthwhile! My youngest son attends Brookdale Primary school. My eldest son is a former Brookdale pupil and now attends Woodchurch High School, where I am a Parent Governor.

When not working, I enjoy exercising and family time, especially getting fresh air with the boys and our lovely dog, Tommy.

Category of Governor: Chair of Governors, Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 18/11/16-17/11/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Parent Governor at Woodchurch High School, Director of Tracey Baxter Consultancy Services.

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee, Finance Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. Science Governor

Christine Vickers Profile

I was a teacher for over 34 years. For the first 20 years, I taught in local mainstream primary schools, during which I had a number of responsibilities, including becoming one of the first Special Needs Co-ordinators in Wirral. I moved on to a local secondary special school, from which I retired as Deputy Head Teacher in December 2015.

I continue to work with children and young people not only through my new relationship with Brookdale Primary School but also in carrying out consultative work at my previous school and as an occasional supply teacher – when my busy life in 'retirement' allows me to do so!

I am a wife, mother and grandmother and enjoy countryside walking, birdwatching and travel.

Category of Governor: Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 22/11/16-21/11/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: See above

Committees currently serving on: Headteacher's Performance Management

Positions of responsibility: Key Stage Governor

Diane Kenny Profile

I qualified as a teacher in 1998. My first post was at Sandbrook Primary School in Moreton where I taught for 6 years. During my time at Sandbrook I taught in a year 5/6 vertically grouped class and co-ordinated both PSHE and I.C.T. I attended residential trips each year to both Ivy, which was then in Arrowe Park, with year 5s and Edale in Derbyshire with year 6s.

In January 2017 I celebrated 13 years at Brookdale. During my time at Brookdale I have taught in years 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 and also taught a vertically grouped year 5/6 class in my first year here. I have co-ordinated PSHE, Assessment and am presently Maths co-ordinator, I also co-ordinate helpers in school including work experience and act as Professional mentor to trainee teachers.

I have an ever expanding family of 2 daughters, 2 son in laws and 3 grandsons. I am proud to say that if they were in our catchment area I would love them to come to our school.

Category of Governor: Staff Governor

Current Term of Office: 14/10/14-13/10/18

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: None

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. Well Being Governor

Gillian Knapton Profile

I have now been teaching for 20 years and became Deputy Head at Brookdale in September 2015. I have been Key Stage 1 manager here since 2004 and am proud to work in a school with such a strong family atmosphere. I am privileged to be part of a great team of teachers, teaching assistants, support staff and parents who support each other to achieve all we can for our children. I am also Geography, History and RE co-ordinator within school and have taught across F2 and Key Stage 1.

I am married to Mr Knapton, who works in Brookdale Pre-School, and we have three children. As with lots of parents, much of our time is spent watching gymnastics, dance shows, football matches and swimming galas! I love to cook, read, do crossword puzzles and go for long walks with our puppy Penny and am a member of my local church.

Category of Governor: Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 01/09/14-31/08/18

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Husband works for Brookdale Pre-school

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee

Positions of responsibility:

John Hughes Profile

Before retiring I taught at Wirral Grammar School for boys. Since then I have been involved in education in a number of positions.

I have also written a document, 'Policies and Procedures for alternative school strategies', as well as being an expert witness for the family courts throughout the northwest. Being regarded as an expert in safeguarding and functions of the family.

In the early nineties I was involved in sports having been a Wimbledon umpire as well as holding coaching qualifications in rugby, volleyball, swimming and tennis.

I look forward to helping Brookdale Primary in any way I can.

Category of Governor: Chair of Governors, Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 22/11/16-21/11/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Director Fermain academy,
Director of Mencap, Director at BLTC, Governor at Raeburn Primary School.

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee.

Positions of responsibility:

John Ratchford Profile

I have been a self employed Builder/Developer for over 20 years and currently own local Driveway Company. I have lived and worked on the Wirral my whole life and have 5 children, three of my children are currently at Brookdale Primary School. One of my older children is studying at St Anselms and my eldest is in full time work. We reluctantly have 2 dogs at home and guinea pigs and not too long ago we had ducks in our back garden too!

I am a qualified boxing coach and I thoroughly enjoy coaching classes three times a week at a local Boxing gym, it gives focus and helps with a variety of different skills and fitness.

I have a keen interest in Brookdale Primary as I want all children to succeed and I believe Brookdale has the potential to make this happen.

Category of Governor: Parent Governor

Current Term of Office: 03/10/16-02/10/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Own Driveway Company

Committees currently serving on: Finance Committee

Positions of responsibility:

Julian Fisher Profile

I am a retired Primary School teacher with 39 years of experience in a number of schools on the Wirral.

I was Deputy Headteacher for 29 years at Brookdale during which time I was able to develop my Passion for teaching and had the opportunity to introduce many initiatives. I taught every year group in Key stage 2 and Brookdale became a very important part of my life.

I retired in 2011 and shortly after suffered a stroke. As a result of this I became a volunteer for The Stroke Association and I am now an Ambassador which has enabled me to deliver presentations to schools on stroke awareness and prevention.

I enjoy playing golf and walking. I regularly attend the gym and have a passion for fly fishing.

I have two grandchildren who take up the rest of my time!

Category of Governor: Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 13/10/15-12/10/19

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: One to One Teaching

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee, Headteachers Performance Management Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. Maths Governor

Pete Smith Profile

I have worked in education for 25 years starting in mainstream as an art teacher and for the past 20 years have been employed in various roles in SEN (special educational needs).

I am currently employed as Vice Principal in a local School on the Wirral which supports pupils with a variety of needs, largely associated with social and communication difficulties. Some of the experience I have gained in this area has been used to Lecture at Edge Hill University on the topic of SEN and Behaviour management/modification. I have also a passion for creativity and the arts and see this as a vehicle for therapeutic intervention, for all.

I have been a governor at Brookdale for 4 years now and have a son who is currently in year 6 and a daughter who is now at Weatherhead High School.

My role as governor is to support in areas relating to SEN and Safeguarding.

Category of Governor: Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 22/09/16-21/09/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Vice Principal at West Kirby Residential School.

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. Vice Chair of Governors, Chair of Standards Committee, SEN Governor

Sue Elliott Profile

I am recently retired, having worked in education for my entire career of 39 years as a Secondary teacher of Design & Technology, in addition to secondments to the Local Authority to manage projects most recently Foundation Learning. I retired as an Assistant Headteacher in 2015 where my responsibilities included Curriculum and Standards, Quality Assurance and Teaching and Learning including assessment and reporting.

I am privileged to be a member of the local Ecumenical Assembly Team and deliver assemblies at Brookdale on alternate weeks. In addition I volunteer to help in the classroom on a weekly basis.

I am a member at Greasby Methodist Church where I co-ordinate delivery of Hope Journey (a Wirral project where local schools come into church to learn aspects of the RE syllabus) and Messy Church (providing alternative forms of worship for children and their families). In addition I am baptismal roll secretary and a member of Church Council. As a member of the Wirral Methodist Circuit Children and Youth Work Strategy group, I oversee the circuit strategic decisions to support such work in Wirral wide Methodist churches

It has been a privilege to be involved in education in my working life. I am passionate about children's learning in a supportive environment, which enables each individual to exceed their potential. I believe that every child deserves a personalised learning experience, which develops unique giftings and which prepares them as active citizens, both today and in the future. I believe that governance is a supportive role, offering a critical friend to ensure continuing improvements within the school

I am proud to be involved at Brookdale, not least because I was a pupil – over 50 years ago!

In my spare time I enjoy walking, particularly with a weekly walking group, meeting up with friends and family and local theatre. I am also chair of Forum Housing Association, which aims to provide supported housing for vulnerable 16-25 year olds, and Chair of Foundation Enterprises (NW), a subsidiary of Forum working with the homeless in Chester

Category of Governor: Co-opted Governor

Current Term of Office: 22/11/16-21/11/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: None

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. English Governor

Rob Brown Profile

I have been a teacher for over 12 years. In that time I have worked in a number of schools across three different local authorities.

I am proud to call myself Headteacher of Brookdale Primary School. Prior to this position I was Deputy Headteacher for 4 years at a local Church of England school. My passion is for developing a growth mindset culture across a school community.

I am also a partner in an education consultancy, in which I specialise in SEN support. This position allows me to visit other schools and glean good practice and ideas from around the North West.

When not working, I enjoy playing and watching sport especially cricket. I have a young daughter and I love going on family muddy welly walks!

Category of Governor: Headteacher

Current Term of Office: 9/1/17 – 9/1/18

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Partner in RNR Educate

Committees currently serving on: Standards Committee, Finance Committee

Positions of responsibility: e.g. Subject Governor

Wendy Clements Profile

I live in Greasby with my husband and my children attended Brookdale. I'm a qualified teacher, and taught maths at secondary school a long time ago. These days I work part time in a Pre-school and since 2010 I have been a local councillor, representing the people of Greasby, Frankby and Irby. I have been a Brookdale governor since 2008 and I'm passionate about our children receiving the best possible education. I hope that as a governor I can contribute to that, working with our wonderful staff team.

Work and council duties take up a lot of time but I spend spare time involved in my church and visiting my lovely grandson.

Category of Governor: Local Authority Governor,

Current Term of Office: 25/07/16-24/07/20

Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests: Employed at Moreton Baptist Preschool, Wirral Borough Councillor, Governor at Greasby Junior School

Committees currently serving on: Finance Committee

Positions of responsibility: Chair of Finance Committee

