



Governing Body – Pen Portraits

Mr P Bailey (Chair)

As a long-standing member of the local community and a former pupil of Beardall Street School, I have been actively involved with the school for many years. My career in education, which includes providing technical and business support to a secondary school and serving as a governor for many years, has equipped me with valuable experience. I am committed to using this experience to challenge, support, and promote the school, with the aim of raising educational standards for pupils within the Hucknall community.

Mr R Bateman (Chair of Strategic Development)

I have been a secondary school teacher for over 25 years and the curriculum lead for Computer Science. I am also a teacher governor at my place of work. I have lived in Hucknall for over 10 years including some time on the estate. My son had a very enjoyable and successful primary school experience at Beardall fields. I have always thought it's important for the school to develop close relationships with the surrounding area and the local community. Through my job I have seen the importance of a proactive governing body and the impact it can have on not only achievement but school life as a whole.

Mrs K Collins (Head Teacher)

'I have been the Head at Beardall since May 2012. Prior to this I was Deputy Head of the school. Nottinghamshire is the third local authority I have worked for, beginning my teaching career in Leeds and then moving to a school in Nottingham City.

My role is to ensure that all governors are kept fully informed of the life of the school and to ensure the strategic vision is carried out by all in school'

Mr D Day

I am a member of all the Governing Body sub-committees, being Chair of the Finance & Human Resources committee. I am a qualified F.A. Coach, Community Sports Leader, Sport Coach Mentor, F.A. referee and F.A. award winner. As a founder member and president of Hucknall Sports Youth Club, I have always had a keen interest in the young people of Hucknall and take great pleasure in my role as a governor at Beardall, where I have served for 15 years. This is one of the ways in which I can contribute my skills to the local community and the education of our local children.

Mr S Drayton (Deputy/Head Teacher, Associate Governor)

As associate staff governor and Deputy Headteacher/Headteacher I work closely with the wider staff and governors to develop the school priorities and promote excellence in all areas of school life. I am passionate about supporting all pupils to achieve their very best each day and am proud to be a part of this thriving, happy school.

Mrs L Fitzpatrick

I have been a Beardall Fields parent since 2016 (my daughter has recently transitioned to Year 7), and my son is currently in Year 4. I work for the Local Authority within the Chief Executives department, and prior to that I worked within the Special Education Needs Service for 13 years.

I live on the Papplewick Green estate and believe that the school is a vital part of our community. I try to help on the PTA as much as possible and enjoy reading, going to the theatre, and watching my son play football.

I feel extremely grateful to have the opportunity to be a Parent Governor and I'm dedicated to making a positive contribution to our children's school lives.

Mr A Poxon (Vice Chair)

As a father of three, with my eldest having just finished his journey through Beardall Fields, my middle son now in Year 2, and my youngest daughter just beginning hers, having recently started in nursery—it's been truly incredible to see how children grow and prosper here. I couldn't be more proud to have accepted a role as a Governor, and I will do all that I can to help.

In addition to being a father to two sons and a daughter, I also work for one of the world's largest veterinary companies as a Business System Implementation Manager. I've overseen the largest data migration of a Practice Management System ever attempted. This required a great deal of organisation, as well as close collaboration with many other departments, to bring a project of this scale to fruition.

Alongside my main job, I'm also a Director of a fishing bait company based in Selston, where I manage social media, finance, stock, and act as the first point of contact.

In my limited spare time, I'm a keen carp angler and run a private carp syndicate water, which keeps me busy. I'm also a "football dad" and spend weekend mornings pitchside cheering on my boys—one of whose teams I'm proud to sponsor. I also enjoy a spot of gardening and spending time with my lovely wife.

Mr W Sellers (Staff Governor)

I was born and raised in Hucknall and have worked at the school since 2011, where I began as a volunteer. I am now the Lower Key Stage 2 Phase Leader and Maths Coordinator - as well as the coach of the school football teams. I'm passionate about education, sport and making a positive difference in children's lives.

Becoming a governor is a chance for me to have a wider impact on our pupils, their families, and the local community, which means a great deal to me. Outside of school, I enjoy music, support Newcastle United, and love spending time with my wife and young son.

Mrs S Stoddart

Having retired in 2021, after many happy years, from my position as Deputy Head, I now work for the Inspire Library service in Nottinghamshire.

I have served on the Governing Body for many years and am currently the Local Authority Governor. I really enjoy working alongside the staff, pupils and other members of the Governing Body. I feel I can use my previous teaching experience and extensive knowledge of the school to help promote the school's strategic plan and support the monitoring and evaluation process.

Governors within the last year

Mrs P Bent

I have a daughter in school, who I am immensely proud of. I am delighted to have been elected into this post and to have a role in her journey through Beardall Fields.

I have 6 years experience of supporting schools to open up opportunities for children who might normally struggle within a mainstream environment, to be creative when considering the support in place for not only children's learning, but also their emotional health. I am passionate about education and ensuring that every child is offered every opportunity to achieve his or her potential. I am a firm believer that aspirational thinking is key to helping our children to succeed. In my day to day life, I am an Achievement Officer (for children in care) and am part of Educational Psychology Services. This role provides me with opportunities to 'upskill' schools, by delivering training / workshops on attachment and trauma, emotion coaching and to introduce schools to psychological approaches which are proven to support staff to breakdown barriers to learning for our most vulnerable children.

I also have many years experience of working with adults, many of which were parents, who were struggling with addictions to drugs, alcohol and eating disorders - both as a person centred counsellor and cognitive behavioural therapist. I also held the safeguarding children lead whilst in this post, with a responsibility for staff training and referrals.

Mrs L Mather

I have worked at Beardall for about 20 years. My children, who are now in their twenties, attended the school and it is a large part of my life. I am the Senior Teaching Assistant at our school and as part of my role I manage a team of TAs and have various other responsibilities.

Of the twenty years I have been at Beardall, most of them have been spent supporting children in Year 6. I enjoy preparing the children for the next stage of their school life and get a great deal of satisfaction from seeing them mature.

I have served on the Governing body previously (for 15 years) and enjoyed being involved with school life from a different perspective. I hope to use my knowledge and enthusiasm for the school in a positive way in order to represent the staff at Beardall.

In my personal life, I have a supportive husband of 32 years and enjoy riding my motorbike up and down the country. I am a pragmatist and have an honest and practical approach to most things in my life.

Mrs B Spittlehouse (Associate Governor)

As a Mother and as a Paediatrician the physical and mental well being of all children is of upmost importance in my life. My eldest daughter attends Beardall Fields and I am excited to have been elected as a Parent Governor. I was born in America and have had the opportunity to travel the world and live in 6 different countries - all contributing to my life experiences and overall knowledge which along with my medical training will help me in my role as a Parent Governor. I am also an Army wife and hope to be a voice for the military community here if required. I am always happy to speak with any of the parents about anything school related.

Mrs G Wilkinson (Vice Chair, Chair of Finance, Site & Safety Committee)

My eldest daughter has just left Beardall Fields, and gone to the National Academy. My youngest daughter is in year 5 at Beardall Fields. I am passionate about being a parent governor, and love being involved with the school. I have lived in Hucknall all my life, and only had a short break whilst studying Communication and Media Studies at Loughborough University.

Since 2000 I have been working for BBC Radio Nottingham, I am one of the Senior Journalists there, and am responsible for the community projects and partnerships.

I am a member of the Trent Vineyard church in Nottingham, and enjoy sewing, knitting, reading and playing netball. I am always happy to talk to any parent about anything school related.